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CIS

MISSING CHILDREN

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INVESTIGATIONS AND GENERAL OVERSIGHT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES
UNITED STATES SENATE
NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON

TO EXPLORE THE CAUSE AND EFFECT OF MISSING CHILDREN, FOCUSING ON HOME ENVIRONMENT, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND CITIZEN ACTION GROUPS

OCTOBER 6, 1981

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MISSING CHILDREN

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1981

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS AND GENERAL OVERSIGHT,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:35 a.m., in room 4232, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Senator Paula Hawkins (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Hawkins and Kennedy.

Staff present: Jay C. Howell, chief counsel; Terri Kay Parker, counsel; and Timothy Jenkins, investigator.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR HAWKINS

Senator **HAWKINS**. Good morning. This hearing will come to order.

Unfortunately, this is another sober day; violence has again happened in one of our countries, which casts a pall upon our society in general. And yet we are all sober as we are here today to talk about a problem that I feel is a national disgrace.

In years past, we all became accustomed to the late evening question from our television set saying, "It is 11 p.m. Do you know where your children are?" Most of us were lucky; we knew where our children were. But, today, hundreds of thousands of American parents cannot answer that simple question. Their children are lost, and with that loss comes an ordeal of imagined horrors, unknown and unseen, but as real and heartfelt as any tragedy facing the American family.

As a society, we are all at fault. Our negligence is a national disgrace. We all are responsible because we have not cared enough, because we have not listened to the cries of those parents whose lives have been devastated by confusion and despair, and because we have not worked together to provide hope through real solutions.

No one among us can even accurately describe the extent of the problem. We simply do not know how many children disappear from their families each year. The estimates are as high as 1.8 million children per year.

The children of this Nation are its most valuable and vulnerable and unprotected resource. Many of these children who disappear from their families are victims of crime. It is also true that hundreds of these children are runaways who safely return to their families.

However, I have learned that "runaway" is a misleading term. Often misunderstood or completely ignored are the reasons why these children flee their homes in the first place. Many are running from abuse, both physical and sexual, or from intolerable home lives.

Regardless of the reason that these children are missing from their homes, once they are on the street they are fair game for child molestation, prostitution, and other exploitation. To label them "runaways" and disregard their safety is to suggest our own lack of compassion and real understanding for this difficult problem.

When a car, a firearm, a boat, or even a refrigerator is reported stolen in this country, a description of it is circulated nationwide almost immediately. I wish I could say that the same system was as effectively used to locate our children. Do we value these material possessions more than our own children? Must we wait until the tragedy strikes us personally before we act on behalf of these helpless children?

This Nation is so advanced in technology and mass communications; why must we wait so long to be able to provide an effective national network of information on lost children? To that end, Senators Denton, Pell, Specter, Thurmond, and I yesterday introduced legislation which is the first step toward establishing a clearinghouse for missing children. The system would also track and identify the remains of unidentified victims.

Presently, if the body of a child or any missing person is discovered by law enforcement officials in a community far from his or her home, there is virtually no way for those officials to determine their identity. We hope that our legislation will provide the solution that is so desperately needed.

Today, we will hear from those whose voices must be heard—brave, brave parents whose lives have been devastated by an ordeal of despair. These parents are driven in their unbearable search for the truth by the strongest force in our society—the love of a parent for a child. I have learned that there is no need, no passion, no tenacity greater than that of a parent who is searching for his child.

In addition, we are going to hear from some law enforcement officers who have dedicated themselves and committed their efforts to the search for our children. And, finally, we will have a panel and hear from those whose children are safe at home, but who, out of a sense of greater responsibility, have picked up and shouldered the burden of locating our missing children.

Today's hearing represents several months of investigative fact-finding and information gathering, and it is time now to focus the attention of the Congress on solutions to this problem. We must begin the task of advancing our collective conscience.

Senator Kennedy?

Senator **Kennedy**. No statement. I just want to welcome the witnesses here this morning.

Senator **Hawkins**. At this point we will insert in the record a statement by Senator Pell.

[The statement referred to follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR PELL

Senator PELL. I am pleased to support Senator Hawkins' legislation to better enable the Justice Department to assist local law enforcement officials in tracing and identifying missing children, and other missing persons.

This bill would authorize the Attorney General to use an existing computer in the FBI's National Crime Information Center data bank on missing children. This computer would have the capability of sending identifying information to some 50,000 police departments nationwide, where it will greatly assist local officials in their efforts to solve these cases.

The Department of Health and Human Services estimates that about 50,000 children under the age of 17 disappear each year in the United States. These children are not runaways, most of whom eventually return to their homes unharmed, or the objects of parental kidnappings inspired by custody battles. These are children who are the victims of abduction and crime, who are taken by adults who want children of their own, molested by other children or by sex offenders, or who are lured into prostitution or child pornography.

Every community has its list of well-known cases, in which missing children have been the objects of intense local searches without ever being found. A major roadblock in most of these searches has been the lack of a central clearinghouse for information on missing children. The fact is that no one really knows how many missing, murdered, and molested children there are in the United States. Although a national data bank in the Justice Department keeps track of stolen cars and other types of stolen property, no central clearinghouse for data on missing children and other missing persons exists in the United States today.

I believe that if we can have a nationwide clearinghouse for information on stolen property, we ought to be able to use these existing computer facilities to maintain the same information on missing children. The lack of a central data bank for identifying information has seriously hindered the efforts of law enforcement in tracing missing children, and has contributed to the prolonged anxiety of their parents and friends.

This bill addresses a serious national problem with a relatively straightforward and workable solution, and I commend Senator Hawkins for her initiative in bringing this problem before the Labor and Human Resources Committee.

Senator HAWKINS. We would like to extend a very special welcome on behalf of the subcommittee to our first panel of witnesses. With us we have Mrs. Julie Patz of New York City, Mrs. Camille Bell of Atlanta, Ga., and Mr. and Mrs. John Walsh of Hollywood, Fla.

Each of you has experienced the tragedy of a missing child, and we extend our deepest and greatest sympathy to you and the members of your families. We so deeply appreciate your coming here today and volunteering to discuss what has to be a very personal experience. But all of us present today have a great confidence that your testimony is essential to any fact-finding process involving missing children.

We acknowledge and respect your willingness to come forward and help others while sacrificing your own privacy, and I want to thank all of you.

I will begin by asking you to briefly explain the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of your children, and feel free to discuss only those experiences that you are comfortable discussing with us here today..

Mrs. Patz, could we begin with you, please?

STATEMENT OF JULIA B. PATZ, NEW YORK, N.Y.; JOHN WALSH AND REVE WALSH, HOLLYWOOD, FLA.; AND CAMILLE BELL, ATLANTA, GA.

Mrs. Patz. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

My son disappeared on the morning of May 25, 1979. At 10 minutes to 8 o'clock on that morning, I walked him to the sidewalk in front of our home in New York City. It would have been the first morning he was to walk the 1½ blocks to the schoolbus by himself.

The schoolbus was clearly visible from in front of our home; there were other children and parents waiting there. I discussed procedure one last time with my son, Etan; watched him walk the first half block with only one block left to go; turned and went back into my home; and that was the last time I saw my son.

At 3:30 that afternoon, at the time my son usually returned from school with another parent, he had not done so. Ten minutes later, I phoned the parent who usually walked him home from the bus stop to find that he had not arrived on the bus. This parent checked with her daughter, a classmate of my son's, and was informed that he had not gone on the schoolbus that morning and that he had not been in school the entire day. The school had not called me to notify me that my child had not arrived.

At 10 minutes to 4 p.m. that afternoon, I telephoned the local precinct and underwent a lengthy discussion about the possibilities of difficulties between my husband and myself, family disputes with other family members, and possible custody battles going on within our family.

I repeatedly reassured the officer on the phone that no such family disputes existed. At that point, they agreed to send a squad car to my home. One hour later, two New York City police officers arrived at my home. They went to the school and confirmed through records that my son had been marked officially absent, and called headquarters for additional help.

It was now 10 hours since I had seen my son and the search was just beginning. Added to that was the fact that it was the beginning of the Memorial Day weekend. Many people in the city had already left; others were preparing to do so at any time.

By 6 that night, approximately 300 police officers arrived at our loft home in Manhattan and set up temporary police headquarters there. They were to remain there with us 24 hours a day for almost 3 weeks. Six o'clock that night marked the end of life as every member of my family had known it up until that time.

To this day, we still do not have the first clue as to what happened to our son; there has not been a single piece of evidence. What has happened to us is that our lives have suffered total disruption—a disruption which is, to a large degree, out of our control and which persist to this day.

The initial feeling we experienced was total terror. When the police physically arrived at our home and started questioning and giving directions, we at least had something else to focus on to some degree.

The physical debilities persisted for days—the inability to swallow even fluids; legs that refused to hold us up and, when we could stand, would not move. Our defense became one of unreality: this was a movie; we were helping to find someone else's child, it was not our son, and it was not happening to us. The police kept us sufficiently busy so that we could continue to delude ourselves along these lines, until we could deal with it and until the shock had worn off.

The only thing we could think of was that we needed to find our son and know he was safe. And then we were faced with another horror. My husband and I were suspects in our son's disappearance. We seldom saw each other; we were kept busy separately by different detectives, questioning us, going over mug shots.

We were suspects. We took polygraph tests; we underwent hypnosis. Our children, from the time the police arrived, were sent off with friends and cared for by friends, basically, around the clock for the first 2½ to 3 weeks. At a time when we very much needed each other and when our children were very confused and frightened, we were not able to parent them and to comfort each other.

This questioning continued virtually nonstop for weeks. We were encouraged—and, in fact, it was demanded of us—that we divulge details of every aspect of our private lives; that we question our marital relationship, our relationships with our relatives, our friends, and our neighbors. The information which we gave and provided freely on all of these people in our lives was turned around; we were asked to question it and our judgment about everyone we knew.

Very shortly, severe paranoia became a major part of our lives. We were asked not to allow our other two children to go with anyone before the police had run a complete check on them. In some instances, the information came back, "Never again let your children go with those people." These had been friends, a part of our daily lives.

We found out similar distressing information about neighbors. This paranoia persists, although we are attempting to fight it because we must go on with our lives. We cannot continually doubt our ability to judge people in our lives, nor can we survive alone.

The incessant police activity of the first few weeks imposed a routine on us which allowed us to pull ourselves together physically. We had little time to think and face reality, but that routine was exhausting. As our neighbors and friends got contributions to print up posters and distribute them through the local area and around the country as they left on summer vacations, we sat at home with police officers, with 500 phone calls pouring into our home every day, each requiring followup by police officers and input by my husband and myself.

Every now and then, a very positive lead would come in; the atmosphere would change. We caught the attitude from the police that this was it; they knew it; they had the boy this time out. Our loft would empty and my husband and I would sit and wait, only to find out time after time after time that every lead that came in led nowhere and was not relevant to our son and to our situation.

We still ride this emotional roller coaster to this day every time a new lead comes in, and they do still come in. At times, we are filled with hope that we will have an answer to this mystery. At other times, we fear that we will never know and spend the rest of our lives never knowing.

Between these periods when no leads are coming in, severe depression sets in and we have to try desperately to fight it, to gain control of our lives once again, and to go on.

[The prepared statement of Mrs. Patz follows:]

TESTIMONY OF

MRS. JULIE PATZ

At 7:50 a.m. on the morning of May 25, 1979, I said good-bye to my six-and-a-half year old son, Etan . It was the first time he was to walk the land 1/2 blocks to the school bus himself. I watched him walk the first half block before going back into our home. That was the last time I saw my son.

At 3:30 that afternoon, I became concerned that Etan had not yet returned from school. Ten minutes later, I telephoned the woman who usually walked him home from the bus stop. I learned that Etan had not arrived on the bus. The woman's daughter, a classmate of Etan's, added that my son had not been in school that day and, in fact, had not ridden the school bus that morning. The school had not notified us that our son had never arrived.

At 3:50 p.m., I telephoned the local police precinct to report my son's disappearance. After lengthy questioning about my relationship with my husband and our relatives, and repeated reassurances by me that we were not involved in a custody fight or other family dispute, they agreed to send a squad car to our home. Two officers arrived one hour later. They checked with our son's school and confirmed that he had been absent that day. They then contacted the precenct house for additional help. It was the start of the Memorial Day weekend. Many people had already left the City while many more prepared to do the same. Time would be an important factor. Our son had already been missing for ten hours when approximately 300 police officers began a roof-top to basement search of the buildings in our immediate neighborhood. Temporary police headquarters was set up in our home.

That was the end of life as we had known it. Almost two and one-half years have passed since that day, and we still have no clue as to our son's whereabouts. The result: unbelievable disruption of our lives - disruptions over which we had little or no control. This turmoil persists, with no end in sight.

The total terror we felt initially, abated when the police arrived and our energies were focused on specific tasks. But the physical debilities lasted for days -- the inability to swallow food or water, legs that refused to move or support weight. As the seemingly endless questioning began, we found our first temporary escape, or defence --this obviously was not real, we were in a movie or looking for someone else's child. Police reassured us that "these cases" were almost always solved within forty-eight hours. Then the weekend was over and fear and panic gripped us firmly. Every part of our being geared toward one desperate goal - finding our son before it was too late.

Then another horror struck. Wanting only to see our child again and know that he was safe, we found ourselves suspects in his disappearance. We endured polygraph tests and hypnosis. My husband and I seldom saw each other, each being kept busy by different detectives. If we left the house, it was with a police escort - but we seldom left. The 24-hour police activity at our home necessitated that our other two children be cared for by friends. At a time when they were terribly frightened and confused, we were unable to comfort them. We became four separate individuals forced to rely solely on our own inner resources. There was no one to lean on.

The questioning continued for weeks. We were encouraged to divulge details of our private lives, to question our marital relationship, to consider the possibility that our respective spouses might have kidnapped or murdered Etan. This same process was followed with each of our relatives, friends, acquaintances and neighbors. After a few weeks, severe paranoia became a major factor in our lives, and remains so today. Did someone we know abduct our son? Were our other children in danger from a warped individual angry over some unknown wrong he felt we had done him? Could we ever trust anyone again?

The incessant police activity of the first few weeks imposed a routine and allowed us to pull ourselves together physically. We had little time to think, so we did not face the reality of our situation. But that routine was exhausting. We met with local residents who had printed posters and distributed them throughout the New York City area, to other states by mailing posters to friends and relatives, and by leaving them wherever they travelled on their summer vacations. Five hundred phone calls a day poured into our home, each requiring follow-up by police and input from us. People off the street stopped by with information and possible leads. As the police received what appeared to be a substantial lead, the entire atmosphere changed instantly - an almost visible sense of "This is it! We have the boy this time!" Our home would empty of police and we would wait. Fear fought hope. Invariably, each clue led to another dead end. We still ride this emotional roller coaster, though less often. At times, we are filled with the hope that we will eventually have an answer to this mystery. At other times, we fear that we will never know. Between these times, are long periods when there are no leads and depression begins to gain control of our lives once again.

Approximately one week into the case, The New York Post published an article based on an anonymous telephone tip. Although the facts had not been confirmed, much of the public at large chose to read the story as truth. The article hinted that police and public alike had been the victims of a cruel hoax perpetrated by my husband and/or me.Our son was safe with relatives in another state. The entire incident had merely been a sick publicity stunt or the result of some family dispute. We received congratulations from friends on having located our son. Posters so laboriously distributed were torn down. Leads ceased to come. Word spread quickly and soon large areas of the country "knew" that our son had been found. There was only one problem -- Etan was still missing. The detectives assigned to our case insist that this one thoughtless article was a severe set-back in the search for our son. When we attempted to refute the article, people became confused. Suspicions increased and rumors began:

- My husband and I had killed our own son, like Alice Crimmins.
- My husband had a lover who was hiding Etan until things calmed down and the three of them could be together.
- I had a lover, etc.
- The whole incident was a publicity stunt designed to launch Etan's modelling career.

- Etan had been taken by a relative who felt that we had failed to provide him with an adequate religious education.
- We had abused Etan and he had run away.

Our case had no resolution, and people needed answers. Many began to formulate their own answers. Fabrication was substituted , as facts did not exist.

After two and one-half weeks, the police moved their base of operations back to Police Headquarters. For the first time since Etan's disappearance, we were able to be together as a family. We suddenly realized the huge numbers of police officers who had been involved in the search and wondered if vital information could have been lost or overlooked. We recognized the importance of working through this situation together. We knew we had to resume the duties and routines of daily life if we were to overcome grief, depression, and despair. We kept in regular contact with our doctors, fully aware that at any moment one or all of us could collapse. My husband and I feared the thought of facing this ordeal without the support of the other should one of us succumb to the pressures. What would happen to our children if we were both to fall apart? Family and friends could no longer provide the help we needed. We had to help ourselves, and each of us deal with the realities of our situation within ourselves. Besides, our family and friends had their own problems to deal with.

Etan's grandmother suffered severe emotional stress. Her overall physical health has been seriously impaired. Another child, Etan's best friend, was totally unable to cope and was put under a doctor's care. His mother became so frustrated at not being able to help us, that she was forced to leave the City and forget our situation in order to go on with her own life. Friends and neighbors feared for the safety of their children. Perhaps there was a psycho-child molester still in the neighborhood.

Many friends suffered from their inability to help us effectively, and were hurt and frustrated by our refusal of continued assistance in our day-to-day household activities. As police continued to question friends, neighbors and family members, fewer and fewer people felt comfortable contacting us. They were all under suspicion and it was easier, perhaps safer, to stop all contact with us. Soon we found ourselves virtually alone -- except for the police. A new fear arose: what if we also lost police support? Could we possibly locate our son if we had to rely on our own resources? It was doubtful.

As I began going back out on the streets without a police escort, I met with criticism from local residents for having been a neglectful and irresponsible mother. I was asked how it felt to know that my son might be dead and that it was all my fault. Friends crossed the street to avoid a potentially uncomfortable meeting. As we attempted to regain a sense of normality and were seen laughing with our children, we received criticism for being uncaring parents, and suggestions that perhaps Etan was better off away from us. Our composure on television lost us much public sympathy. Obviously, we were not shaken by our tragedy. We appeared more suspect and sinister to many now. Such encounters were difficult enough for my husband and me, but traumatic for the children. It was extremely hard to go on with life when so many people around us were unable to accept our compelling need to do so. It required a constant, draining effort to resist the temptation to give in to grief and let other people care for us.

Our attempts at outings, vacations, or just a quiet day at home with the kids were constanly thwarted. The phone would ring and we were off following another lead. Recognizing us from television, strangers approached us offering sympathy, suggestions, psychic information, and much more. We had become public property. Privacy was almost nonexistent.

It is true that as police leads and participation decreased drastically, we welcomed the media; though we found the exposure most distasteful. We recognized the value of media assistance in reaching people across the country with our story. Until recently, we have made ourselves totally available to the media. However, once we "went public", the nightmare became worse:

- -Psychics rang our door bell stating, "I know where your son is."
- -The emotionally disturbed phoned. Sounding quite competent, they would inform us that they had our son and wanted to return him.
- -New leads poured in with each bit of media coverage. Over and over again, our hopes were raised and then dashed.
- -A child disappeared in another state and we faced another total assault by the media. Once again we put all personal plans aside.
- -Another missing child was found and returned to his parents. More media coverage. Is there a connection with our case? Have the police checked it out?
- -Obscene phone calls arrived in the middle of the night.
- -Hate mail appeared in our mail box.
- -Religious groups informed us that our son had been taken from us because we had failed our God --or, Etan would not be returned to us unless we made the proper sacrifice to yet another God.
- -Parents of other missing children telephoned us for advice, sympathy, or just to talk to someone who would understand.
- -We welcomed total strangers into our home when they indicated they may have vital information.
- -We have been the target of a number of would-be extortionists who offered us our son, or information on his whereabouts, in exchange for money.

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-A local child-pornography ring was broken by the police and once more the media was at our doorstep.
-A man in his sixties phoned us. His sibling had disappeared when he was only six years old. He was still searching. His last name was the same as ours. Perhaps we would have the one piece of information he had sought so long.

All these things fell on my husband and me, conspiring to keep us from dealing with our children properly. In the meantime, our son and daughter (then two and eight years old respectively) had their own specific problems.

Our daughter was avoided totally by her peer group at school. They told her honestly that they felt too sad and uncomfortable in her presence and, therefore, chose not to be with her. Older children in the school, fearing she would avoid the possibility of her brother's death, took it upon themselves to remind her of that possibility daily. As her need increased to put the whole incident behind her, another media event caused a new rash of questions by her classmates, followed by heightened avoidance. Local children sought her out and expressed their wish that their siblings would disappear so that they also might be on television. She has sufficient knowledge of the world to be able to speculate on the many things which may have happened to her brother. Waking moments are greatly marred by this speculation. The nightmares were worse, and have still not subsided completely.

Our five year old son began public school last month. He is not attending the school we feel could best meet his educational needs. That would have meant being with his brother's old teacher and associating with Etan's closest friends who still attend that school. Problems would have been created for all concerned.

Both children feel the vacuum created by Etan's disappearance. Each resents the other for being unable to fill the needs once met by a family member no longer here. Shira constantly desires a sibling relationship with someone closer to her own age. Ari has become dissatisfied with his peer group and cultivates friendships with older children who might replace his missing brother. He suggests that various friends come live with us and that we change their names to Etan. All this after failing in his attempt to become his brother -- taking over his brother's bed and possessions, assuming his daily routines, habits and mannerisms.

Ari is still unable to comprehend how his "lost" brother cannot be found by his parents, just as a lost toy is found if one looks hard enough. Giving up on us, he placed total faith in the police to locate and return his brother. They too failed. Ari is disillusioned with the adult world. He insists that when he is big enough, he will find Etan himself. He would not be the first to attempt this.

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After one year had passed, our sense of helplessness increased dramatically. We sought out new avenues for publicity. We tried desperately to find a way to get our son's picture to all public and private schools in the nation, but found the cost prohibitive. And yet, we had learned of instances where abducted children had been located in schools under assumed names. Our son could be in one of those schools and we had no way of checking. Everyone we contacted was most sympathetic, but no one felt they could get involved. If they did it for us, they would be inundated with requests by parents of other missing children. We also sought television specials on the subject of missing children; but the producers invariably requested national data on this phenomenon, and we could provide none. Our research indicated that perhaps no single agency could provide such statistics. Our son was still missing, and we could do little.

At this time, we had increased contact with the families of other missing children. Groups working for national legislation to assist in the location of missing persons offered us help and asked us to join their fight. Once again, we had something to occupy our time while we waited for the miracle that would give us back our son. And if our efforts for legislation proved successful, perhaps it would benefit others in the future. We had a new goal to keep us going a bit longer. Hope was elusive, but not lost.

We had two other major campaigns we could pursue: the use of private detectives and offering a reward for information on our son's whereabouts. We had no funds with which to effect either campaign. Despite numerous offers of funding, no monies were ever obtained.

Time went on. No answers were found. Rumors flourished.

And we come to the present. We are all faced with several possible futures in this terrible situation. We may never know what happened to Etan, and we may be stuck in this indefinite state with all it's fearful speculations. There is the numbing fact that Etan may be dead, and only we are left to suffer. Finally, there is the possibility that we may get Etan back. This sounds like the perfect ending to our story, but, in reality, it would be the beginning of a new ordeal for us. Etan would certainly not be the person we knew and loved for six and one-half years. Emotional and psychological (perhaps physical) damage are almost assured. He would be a virtual stranger to us -- and perhaps we to him. The readjustments required by all of us could be overwhelming. Added financial burdens in caring for Etan could prove devastating. But we cannot push these thoughts aside, because we know of children who have returned home after three, five, or even seven years.

Financially, we are deeply in debt. This resulted from expenditures on efforts to locate Etan and from lack of income. When Etan disappeared, employment ceased for both my husband and me. For seven years, I had run a daycare center in my home. Due to extended involvement in police matters, I have been unable to reopen that school. My attempts to obtain a job at other schools - even at those where I was known and respected - were fruitless. I was told by one school director that she

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had to consider the attitudes of the parents whose children attended the school. She anticipated opposition and I was not hired. After my interview at another school, the director was approached by parents who opposed my employment. They did not feel comfortable having me teach their children. It has become evident that I must find a new career. Several child-related fields are of interest to me, but require additional college training. We cannot afford the tuition. Too, my children should not be motherless five nights a week at this time in their lives. My inability to function in my chosen area of expertise has definitely affected my outlook on life.

My husband, a free-lance photographer, was physically and emotionally unable to work for months. By that time, many of his clients had, understandably, switched their accounts to other photographers. Additional clients and business contacts were lost because the association with our situation was uncomfortable or undesirable from a business standpoint. My husband and I felt the guilt of being unable to provide adequately for our children, and suffered the fear of financial ruin.

The pressure and trauma have been endless. We are only just beginning to fully realize the toll it has taken on all of us. We have survived, but we are not the same people we were. We have not been allowed the dubious advantage of knowing our son's fate. Our grief and anger lack the specific focus necessary if those emotions are to be dealt with completely and finally set aside. Without therapy and the support of a few friends and family members, we might not have made it to this point.

Not too long ago, we believed that the most difficult task facing us was to accept that we might never know what happened to our son. But that matter is entirely out of our control. Far more difficult is the conscious decision we now face. Are we approaching a time when we must force ourselves to give up the search for our son, in order that the four of us may devote full energy to going on with our lives? If the answer is "yes", as I suspect it must be, when is the right time? And will we be able to deal with the guilt that will undoubtedly follow. Will we ever be able to put out of our minds the feeling that one last effort on our part might have provided us with the answer we so desperately need?

Our Efforts, Methods and Tactics

1. Police

Of all the elements functioning in the search for our son, the Police Department is foremost. We were fortunate in getting an immediate and intensive police response to our call for help. After the initial search, we had a five-man task force assigned to our case (now reduced to two men) to check out the continuing leads. Most of our time and energy has been spent working with the police. That local police department is the only public agency authorized and trained to find out what happened to our son.

2. Publicity

The second most important element in our search effort has been publicity. The communications media has been invaluable in the rapid and extensive broadcasting of information pertinent to our missing child. The media operates at it's best on such sympathetic stories as ours, where it can provide a real service.

In addition to the more obvious benefits, media coverage provides some important side benefits. We believe that as long as we are in the public eye, leads will continue to come in and the police will be unable to drop our case. Few missing child cases have received as much police attention as ours. Another effect we hope for is that continual media coverage will put additional psychological pressure on the person or persons responsible for this crime.

3. Posters

As many as half-a-million posters may have been distributed. The saturation of our neighborhood was an effective way of alerting people to an immediate and local problem. We still rely on posters for first contacts with other police departments, and for relaying information to people with leads. We have mailed posters to individuals all over the country, thus reaching areas even the police and media failed to reach. Friends and concerned persons distributed posters in parts of Europe and the Middle East.

4. Schools

One of the more logical places to look for a child would be in a school. Getting "Missing Child" posters to every public and private school in the country proved too overwhelming a task - physically and financially. Congressman Peter Peyser (D-NY) assisted us to some degree in this endeavor by facilitating the inclusion of Etan's photograph in several educational journals which reach many teachers and school superintendents. We have found no such easy access to private schools, and have no idea if those magazines which did include our son's picture ever made their way into the public schools throughout the country.

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5. Reward

We were firmly against offering a large reward, since we feared that big money would be an incentive to additional kidnappings. Now, after two and one-half years, we are reluctantly reviewing this tactic. As distasteful as the thought might be, we realize that perhaps the only way we will reach a resolution to our problem is to "buy" information with a reward.

6. Psychics

One of the more controversial elements in our search efforts has been the psychics. We have been willing to work with psychics due to the total lack of concrete evidence in this case. We have spent much time with some of these people - depending on their past successes and the quality and quantity of their "information". Official police policy disallows working with psychics. However, the police have checked out the more promising psychic leads. We recognized that psychics have assisted in solving other cases and, more cynically, we knew that real information could be funnelled through a psychic.

7. Private Detectives

Since our finances are limited and the police have been so supportive, we have worked little with private detectives. Alice Byrne of Ambassador Special Services, Ltd., has volunteered her time. She has been quite helpful in dissemination of information on our case to police departments not serviced by the Telex System and to other groups throughout the country. Her detective agency has recently developed a very useful and low-cost package of services to assist the families of missing children.

8. Groups

Many months into our search effort, we became familiar with various common-cause groups working on the issue of missing children. These grass-roots organizations assisted with names of additional contacts that might be helpful in our search. Several distribute magazines which include photographs and vital data on missing persons, and included our son in those publications. We believe we have been instrumental in making each of these groups aware of the efforts of the others, so that they would work more effectively together in seeking corrective legislation.

5. Schools

It should be a law (not voluntary) that contact be made between school and parent when a child is absent. Parents have an obligation to notify the school if their child is to be kept out of school. If such a call is not received by the school and the child fails to appear, the school must call the parents. Had the school notified us, we could have begun our search for Etan six to eight hours earlier. Schools are the guardians of our children for a large part of the day. The absence of a child should be taken seriously.

6. Fingerprinting

Although an extremely sensitive issue, we now believe that all children should be fingerprinted and that these prints should be a part of their school record. Children being admitted to new schools could be cross-checked against a data bank of missing children. National fingerprinting would cause a drastic reduction in the numbers of parental kidnappings. No longer would it be easy for a kidnapper to transport a victim to another state and simply enrol the child in a new school under an assumed identity.

7. Sunshine Laws for the Child Care Business

As it now stands, adoption and foster care agencies are shrouded in secrecy. Although their operations require a degree of confidentiality if they are to protect their wards, that confidentiality should not be so restrictive as to prevent legitimate inquiries by responsible officials investigating a missing child case. These agencies, in the hands of dishonest persons, could "legitimize" kidnapped children and place them with new parents here or abroad. This thought is even more chilling if the children are given over to organizations and used for illicit purposes.

After the initial search is over, after all the leads are checked out, after the police apologize and say they can do nothing else -- what then?

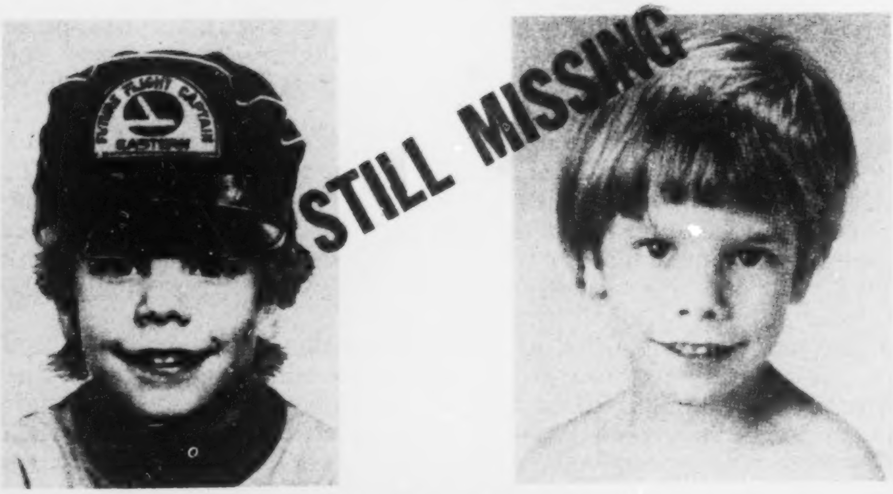
Who is responsible for finding a lost child?

When the police have gone, the burden falls back on the parents. Usually, they are emotionally distraught, financially limited, untrained in search methods, and totally lacking any official leverage necessary for obtaining information . The task of conducting a national search is beyond the abilities of the grieving parents.

The vigor with which we search for missing children is a measure of our society. How important is any individual? How much time and money will be spent trying to locate that individual? If there is no vigorous search, what message will we be sending to the perpetrators of these crimes? What will be the fate of these lost children?

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

LOST CHILD



ETAN PATZ

113 PRINCE STREET

Missing Since Friday May 25th, 1979. Last seen 8 a.m., at Prince St. & West B'way.

DESCRIPTION:

Date of Birth: October 9, 1972 Male, White, 6 yrs.
Height: 40 Inches Weight: 50 lbs.
Blond Hair, Blue Eyes, Wearing Black Pilot Type Cap, Blue Corduroy Jacket, Blue Pants, Blue Sneakers with Fluorescent Stripes; Carrying Blue Cloth Bag with Elephants Imprinted.

Persons Having Any Information
Are Requested To Call

(212) 374-6913

Senator **Hawkins**. Thank you very much, Mrs. Patz.

Mr. Walsh?

Mr. **Walsh**. Madam Chairman, both my wife and I appreciate the opportunity to testify before this subcommittee, as we have a story that we feel should be heard by all of the people of the United States and, in particular, the very interested parties in this committee.

We reside in Hollywood, Fla., in our own home and I am employed as an executive vice president of sales and marketing for the Paradise Grand Hotel, a new hotel being built in the Bahamas. I am a graduate of the University of Buffalo, and my wife was, up until our recent tragedy, a full-time student at Broward Community College.

On July 27, 1981, at approximately 12:30 p.m., our only beloved son, Adam John Walsh, was abducted from the Hollywood Mall in Hollywood, Fla. He and his mother had been shopping in the Hollywood Mall and he was in the toy department while his mother was approximately three aisles away. In a matter of less than 10 minutes, he vanished. What proceeded has been called the largest manhunt in south Florida history.

After paging Adam in Sears, the Hollywood police were notified and immediately proceeded to search for Adam. Throughout the entire ordeal, the Hollywood Police have to be commended for their cooperation and their sincere and massive effort. All Hollywood uniformed police were put on foot, as well as every Hollywood detective from burglary, narcotics, and homicide, who joined the search for Adam.

Hundreds of volunteers belonging to the Citizen Crime Watch, as well as thousands of individuals, joined the search. The Florida Fish and Game Commission, as well as the Florida Park Rangers, searched the area within a 50-mile radius. Helicopters searched day and night; private planes joined the search in the daytime.

Groups such as the Four-By-Fours, an off-the-road vehicle club with 50 members, searched every night in areas that were unaccessible to police. Divers in boats joined the search in canals and quarries. An initial reward of $5,000 was offered, and that was rapidly raised to $100,000 by pledges from concerned business associates and strangers.

The vice president of Delta Airlines called from Atlanta and offered to send down 300 people to join in the search. Both Eastern Airlines and Delta Airlines helped by delivering posters of Adam's disappearance to airports in cities all over the United States. At the final count, over 1 million posters were printed and delivered throughout the United States. A private postal delivery service hand-delivered 30,000 posters each day in different areas throughout Dade and Broward Counties.

After approximately 3 days, the organized search was abandoned and it was determined that Adam was apparently kidnaped. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was contacted, but they did not enter the case, stating that there was a necessity of evidence of Adam crossing the State line with his abductors or a demand for ransom.

A massive media campaign was mounted to inform the public in the Florida area about the disappearance of Adam. The three major television stations in south Florida carried news of Adam's disappearance or personal appearances by us on every newscast at 12, 6, and 11 p.m.

On August 1, we attempted to alert the entire State of Florida, with full cooperation from Orlando Mayor Willard "Bill" Frederick, Jr. We flew by private plane to Orlando and held a press conference of all major television station, radio, and newspaper people.

Then, in spite of the air traffic controllers' strike, we flew on to Tampa and were waived by the supervisors on duty at the airport right to the main terminal, and held a press conference in the Eastern Airlines Ionisphere Lounge, with newspaper, radio, and live television broadcasts, with stations that had come from Tampa, St. Petersburg, and as far west as the panhandle of Florida.

Disney World briefed their 300 security guards and 20 detectives, as well as Busch Gardens, Circus World, and other major attractions, who cooperated in the search for Adam. A representative of the family flew to Atlanta and appeared on Ted Turner's Cable News Network, which broadcast news of Adam's disappearance, as well as his picture, on the hour. We personally appeared on Selkirk Cable Network television, which is broadcast throughout Canada and south Florida.

During this time, the FBI was constantly updated but never officially entered the case. A personal family friend received a call from Attorney General William French Smith's office and was assured that the administration would see that everything was done in their power, but again the FBI never officially became involved.

Because of the difficulty and oftentimes apparent lack of cooperation between different police agencies, members of my office staff spent 3 days and nights contacting by phone every police and sheriff's department throughout the State of Florida, and personally mailing five flyers to each office. The Hollywood Police continued their around-the-clock efforts, as their fine detective bureau followed every possible lead.

Over 60 psychics from around the country, many recommended by certain police agencies as well as psychics who had received notoriety from working on the Atlanta child murders and working on the Los Angeles freeway killer murders, joined the case. Many surrounding police agencies and other police agencies throughout Florida cooperated, and some others politely ignored the problem.

On August 10, despite the continuing air traffic controllers' strike, we flew to New York to await an 8 a.m. appearance the following day on "Good Morning, America." At 6:30 that morning, I was notified in our hotel room as my wife slept that a young boy's head had been found in a canal in Vero Beach and that the remains might possibly be that of Adam. But there was need to get our dentist up and get the dental records to Vero Beach.

Without informing my wife, we went to the "Good Morning, America" show to appear. Host David Hartman asked me if we wanted to go on and continue with the show and I informed him that even if the remains were Adam, I felt that we should go on and tell the story for all the other missing children that we had become aware of.

While in New York, we met Mrs. Julie Patz, the mother of Etan, and other members of the Child Find organization that had been in constant phone contact with us and other missing children's organizations throughout the country.

The problem with Adam's disappearance and the abduction was ever on our minds, but it became apparent to us of a greater overall problem. We appeared on "Good Morning, America" at 8 a.m. to plead for Adam's safe return and for all to recognize the problem of missing children.

Upon our return to the hotel at 11 a.m., we were informed that the remains and the head that were found in the Vero Beach Canal were definitely those of our beloved son, Adam. The unending nightmare had now become a reality as we flew back to Florida.

[The joint prepared statement of Mr. and Mrs. Walsh follows:]

STATEMENT OF JOHN AND REVE WALSH

Madam Chairman:

We appreciate the opportunity to testify before this subcommittee as we have a story that we feel should be heard by all the people of the United States of America, and in particular, the very interested parties in your committee.

We reside in Hollywood, Florida at 2801 McKinley Street in our home and I am employed as the executive vice president of sales and marketing for the Paradise Grand Hotel, a new hotel being constructed on Paradise Island, Nassau, Bahamas. The anticipated opening of the hotel is February 1982.

I am a graduate of the University of Buffalo and my wife was, up until our recent tragedy, a full-time student at Broward Community College.

On July 27, 1981, at approximately 12:30 p.m., our only beloved son, Adam John Walsh, was abducted from the Hollywood Mall in Hollywood, Florida. He and his mother had been shopping in the Hollywood Mall and he was in the toy department, with his mother approximately three aisles away. In a matter of ten minutes he vanished. What proceeded has been called the largest man-hunt in South Florida history.

After paging Adam in Sears, the Hollywood police were notified and immediately proceeded to search for Adam. Throughout the entire ordeal, the Hollywood police have to be commended for their cooperation and their sincere and massive effort. All Hollywood uniformed police were put on foot, as well as every Hollywood detective from burglary, narcotics, homicide, etc. joined the search for Adam. Hundreds of volunteers belonging to the Citizen Crime Watch, as well as thousands of individuals joined the search. The Florida Fish and Game Commission, as well as the Florida Park Rangers searched the area within a 50 mile radius. Helicopters searched day and night; private planes joined the search during the daytime. Groups such as the Four-By-Fours (an off the road vehicle club with 50 members) searched every night in areas that were unaccessible to the police. Divers in boats joined the search in canals and quarries. An initial reward of Five Thousand ($5,000) Dollars was offered and that was rapidly raised to One Hundred Thousand ($100,000) Dollars by pledges from concerned business associates and strangers. The Vice President of Delta Air Lines called from Atlanta and offered to send three hundred people down to join in the search. Both Eastern Air Lines and Delta Air Lines helped by delivering posters of Adam's disappearance to airports in cities all over the United States. At the final count, over one million posters were printed and delivered throughout the United States. A private postal delivery service hand-delivered 30,000 posters each day to different areas throughout Dade and Broward counties. After approximately three days, the organized search was abandoned and it was determined that Adam was apparently kidnapped. The

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was contacted, but they did not enter the case; stating that there was a necessity of evidence of Adam crossing the state line with his abductors or demand for ransom.

A massive media campaign was mounted to inform the public in the Florida area about the disappearance of Adam. The three major television stations in South Florida (Channel 4, Channel 7 and Channel 10), ABC, NBC and CBS, carried news of Adam's disappearance or of personal appearances by us on every newscast at 12 noon, 6 and 11 p.m. On August 1st, we attempted to alert the entire state with the full cooperation of Orlando mayor, Willard "Bill" D. Frederick, Jr. We flew by private plane to Orlando and held a press conference of all the major television stations, radio and newspaper people. Then, in spite of the air traffic controller's strike, we flew onto Tampa and were waived by the supervisors on duty at the airport right to a main terminal and held a press conference in the Eastern Airlines Ionisphere Lounge with newspaper, radio and live television broadcasts with stations that had come to Tampa from all over the Tampa/St. Petersburg area and as far west as the panhandle of Florida. The major attractions in the Orlando area participated fully. Disneyworld briefed their 300 security guards and 20 detectives, as well as Busch Gardens, Circus World, etc. cooperated in the search for Adam. A representative of the family flew to Atlanta and appeared on Ted Turner's Cable News Network, which broadcasted news of Adam's disappearance, as well as his picture on the hour. We personally appeared on the Selkirk Cable Network, which broadcasts throughout South Florida and parts of Canada. Television, radio and press coverage continued throughout the State as we traveled to other cities within Florida.

During this time the FBI was constantly updated but never officially entered the case. A personal family friend received a call from Attorney General William French Smith's office and was assured that the administration would see that everything was done in their power but again, the FBI never officially became involved.

Because of the difficulty and often times, apparent lack of cooperation between different police agencies, members of my office staff spent three days and nights in my office contacting (by phone) every police and sheriff's department throughout the state of Florida and personally mailing five flyers to each office. Hollywood police continued their round-the-clock efforts as their fine detective bureau followed every possible lead. Over 60 psychics, from around the country, many recommended by certain police agencies, as well as psychics who had received notoriety working on the Atlanta child murderers and in Los Angeles on the Freeway killer murders, joined the case. Many surrounding police agencies and other police agencies throughout Florida cooperated and some others politely ignored the problem.

Page Three

Eye witnesses finally came forth after approximately four days of constant coverage in the media. One boy who apparently thought he had seen Adam leaving the store followed by a burly man in his late 20's or early 30's, white male, dark hair, came forth with his grandmother and offered testimony. They said that the man had run from the Hollywood store and jumped into a blue van which screeched up and almost hit them and went around the corner where he thought Adam may have wandered. The Hollywood police suggested hypnosis as the boy's story was very vague and he could not pinpoint the exact time that Adam was in the store. His mother refused to have the boy hypnotized until two weeks after Adam's remains were found. Other conflicting stories came forward. The female security guard in the store felt that she might have possibly asked two sets of arguing boys (2 black and 2 white) to leave the store and that possibly Adam, who was watching these boys argue over an Atari video game, may have followed her instructions and left the store reluctantly.

After close investigation, the detectives determined that this was most likely the case, as Adam was a superior student in private school, a member of his T-ball team, all-star in his first year at 6 1/2 years old and, according to his three teachers and classmates, a very disciplined little boy with great respect for authority figures. It is very likely that he might have followed the orders of the security guard and thought that he was part of the group ordered to leave the store, as the concensus of opinion is that he would have never left the store on his own. He has traveled, extensively, with my wife and I and has never been lost or wandered away from us on any occasion. He attended private school and was brought to school each morning and picked up at 3:00 p.m. He lived across from a park and he was not allowed to go to the park by himself nor to ride his bicycle in the street. He has never had a strange baby sitter and was always looked after by my mother, who lives with us, and by my younger brother (23 years old). After many false sightings, many leads, the Hollywood police are still baffled by the developments in the case and the lack of clues.

On August 10th, despite continuing Air Traffic Controller's strike, we flew to New York to await an 8 a.m. appearance (on the following day) on the "Good Morning America" show. At 6:30 that morning, I was notified (in our hotel room as my wife slept) that a young boy's head had been found in a canal, in Vero Beach, and that the remains might possibly be that of Adam but there was need to obtain his dental records and deliver them to Vero Beach. Without informing my wife, we went to the "Good Morning America" show to appear. Host David Hartman asked me if we wanted to go on and continue with the show and I informed him that even if the remains were Adam I felt that we should tell our story for all the other missing children that we had become aware of. While in New York, we met Mrs. Julie Patz, the mother of Eaton Patz and other members of the Child Find organization that had been in constant phone contact with other missing children's organizations throughout the country. The problem with Adam's disappearance and abduction was ever on our minds but it became more apparent to us of a greater overall problem.

We appeared on the "Good Morning America" show at 8:00 a.m. to plead for Adam's safe return and for all to recognize the problem of missing children, and upon our return to the hotel at 11:00 a.m. we were informed that the remains that were found in the Vero Beach canal were definitely that of our beloved son, Adam. The un-ending nightmare had now become a reality as we flew back to Florida.

On August 15th, a special "Mass of the Angels" was held for Adam at St. Maurice's Catholic Church and over one thousand people from the surrounding area attended the mass. My cousin, Father Michael Convoy, (a pastor in upstate New York) read the eulogy, as a children's choir sang in celebration of Adam's short and wonderful life. After conducting one final press conference and thanking the hundreds of thousands of people that had donated their time to look for Adam, the cooperation of the Hollywood police and the media and all the concerned citizens throughout the rest of the United States, we traveled to a friend's home in upstate New York to attempt to deal with our grief on a personal basis.

Realizing that there is nowhere you can go or nothing you can do to soothe the wounds, we returned to Hollywood, Florida to find that while we were gone, we had received over 20,000 sympathy letters, donations, mass cards, trees donated in Israel, and various other expressions of condolences, as well as thousands of calls.

We have determined that although we would never be able to find any answers to Adam's death, that in our minds, he would not die in vain. We thought that the best way to deal with our grief was to do something for the rest of the missing children in the United States. With the donations that we received, we set up The Adam Walsh Outreach Center for Missing Children and proceeded to tell the story of missing children to a nation that is obviously unaware that this problem exists. We also realize that very few families in the United States could get the help financially, as well as emotionally, that we did. We came to the realization that many of my business and close friends pooled all their efforts in the belief that collectively we could get Adam back. Since then we have heard from hundreds of people with missing children as well as people with murdered children and realize that the vast majority of these people did not receive the support, financially or emotionally or the exposure that we did. After meeting with some of the mothers of missing children and with the horror of Adam's death in the back of our minds, we can never forget the looks on their faces as they still search for their children, determined that no matter what the cost, emotionally or financially, that they will find them. In most cases, this is a hopeless and lost cause.

It is certainly evident the priorities of this great country are in some disorder. A country that can launch a space shuttle that can return to the earth and take off again, a country that can allocate millions of dollars to save a small fish, the snail darter in the Tennessee Valley river, threatened with extinction, but does not have a centralized reporting system or a nationwide search system for missing children, certainly need to reaffirm the very principles that this country was founded on, namely, personal freedoms.

In order not to appear to the general public as some grief-striken, deranged people, we were determined to get what facts were available in the best possible order hoping to present them to someone such as this Senate subcommittee. Although our hearts are broken, we are bound and determined that our story would be heard on behalf of the other little children that are out there at this very moment, afraid, confused, terrified and wondering when mommy and daddy or whoever is going to help them. After contacting and speaking with many of the twenty or so individual missing children agencies throughout the country, it appears that statistics indicate that there are over one hundred and fifty thousand (150,000) individual children missing each year. Approximately one hundred thousand (100,000) of these are runaways and children snatched by ex- parents.The unbelievable and unaccounted for figure of fifty thousand (50,000) children disappear annually and are abducted for reasons of foul play. One only has to look at some of the past incidences, such as the twenty-two victims in Houston, the forty-four victims of the Freeway killer and Hillside strangler in Los Angeles, thirty-three victims buried in the home of John Wayne Gacy as well as the much publicized Atlanta slayings, just to name a few.

While in seclusion in Ithaca, New York, Cornell University made available to us their microfilm laboratory and we researched this problem by means of newspaper, magazine and statistical reports. Most surprising is that the uniform crime report produced annually by the FBI has no official statistics on kidnapping, child abuse, homosexual rape or missing children. And after researching the Federal Kidnapping Statute it appears that the FBI has arbitarily decided to interpret the Statute in their own way. A quote from the Statue: an FBI investigation is authorized when "there is information or an allegation that a person has been unlawfully abducted and held for ransom or OTHERWISE". We also found proof in past magazine articles (this can be substantiated by the Dee Scofield group also) that the FBI entered into the case of Fran Freluche, a $500,000 horse that disappeared from the Claybourne Farm in Paris, Kentucky. According to FBI spokesman, Bill Cheek in Louisville, "we are investigating and assuming we have jurisdiction because of the value of the horse, if we never prove their was interstate travel, then, of course it's a local matter." It seems extremely ludicrous that the FBI would enter the case of a $500,000 horse where no ransom note was ever received or proof of it crossing the state line.

According to the New York Times, Sunday, July 30, 1933 - Headlines - "J. Edgar Hoover heads new crime bureau, a division created by President Roosevelt will war on kidnappers." Again, the New York Times, November 4, 1934 - "The Lindberg Law and the activity of federal agents threaten to kill kidnapping". Front page, Saturday, July 30, 1933, New York Times, "Federal warfare against kidnapping widens its range - Roosevelt plans new legislation, National police is talked as public opinion backing the crusade gains strength."

It is obvious from our research that one of the main objectives of the formation of the FBI was certainly to fight crime on a federal level, but according to all articles and research it was primarily created to assist in the war on kidnapping. It appears that during the time since 1933 when the FBI and J. Edgar Hoover declared war on kidnapping because of the notoriety of the Lindberg case, that public opinion has not been strong enough to force the FBI back into what was originally intended and formed to do. Granted, some police agencies are excellent and well equipped to look for missing and abducted children in Their Areas. Once a child is taken from the jurisdiction of the local police force, virtually no one looks for him. If he is abducted in a rural community (that is served by sheriffs) possibly one sheriff may take the report; then the parents go back home and wait and wait and wait. The scenario is repeated continually, daily throughout the United States. This is not a local problem; this is not a regional problem; this is a national problem. Recently headlines and news stories have been full of the effect of government budget cuts. There are federal statistics that tell us exactly how many families these budget cuts will effect. There is no federal or state agency today that can tell us exactly how many families are affected by missing children. Frankly, knowing the grief my wife and I feel I am a bit afraid of the collective grief the provisions of The Missing Childrens Act will outline. Certainly the facts which accumulate will appall some, embarrass others and sadden us all. I guarantee that when this bill is passed, and the facts concerning missing children are finally accumulated, that all Americans will be shocked. As always happens, we will search for a source of blame...but that blame increases each day that this bill is not passed.

After personally interviewing Dr. Ronald Wright (a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences) and the chief medical examiner of Broward Country, we were again appalled to learn the lack of a centralized system for identifying bodies. Dr. Wright has succeeded in linking up Florida's 22 medical examiner's offices with a computer in Colorado that was initially started to help identify thousands of victims of a past flood. Wright has been actively lobbying in hopes that this problem of unidentified bodies can be solved by linking up the 1500 medical examiner's offices, throughout the United States.

Right now in the Broward County Morgue, in just one area in the United States, there are seven bodies that Dr. Wright and his staff say "they are further stymied in efforts to identify bodies due to the time it takes to have fingerprints matched with those held by the Federal Bureau of Investigation". The FBI lab is terribly understaffed and their overwhelming requests for prints take about three months to have a request filled. It's been so bad that the FBI no longer does fingerprinting for people who apply for business reasons. Therefore, in many cases if the unidentified person is not a criminal whose fingerprints are logged with the FBI, the chances of identifying the person is slim. According to a female member of Wright's staff, "you've got to realize there are people out there who want to know what happened to their loved ones. That's why we work so hard to come through. These These aren't just bodies, they're people". It is evident that people are held in morgues throughout the United States, buried at a cost to their local counties in John Doe or unmarked graves and no one ever knows that it's their dear relative that they have been looking for. It is almost inconceivable, in this great country with its resources, that this problem exists and continues to exist. After a long, continuing discussion with Wright, he has determined that there would be approximately 10,000 unidentified bodies a year throughout the country. The cost of setting up a computer to keep this information so there could be a ready exchange by all authorities throughout the United States is so small that is it is actually ridiculous.

After interviewing local police agencies in Florida, New York state and Michigan, the overall lack of communication between local and state authorities is incredulous. In the experience of the Hollywood police, when attempting to supply information about Adam's disappearance nationwide they found that the systems of two entire states were so antiquated that they would not even take any information about Adam. The "infamous" NCIC, National Crime Information Computer, is so overburdened with general statistics that it is ineffective. Crimes as diverse as burglary, car theft, runaway husbands, and murder, as well as information on missing persons are feed into this computer that it is impossible for a local agency to cross-reference information from other agencies.

In light of President Reagan's call for budget cuts in every area, the problem of a budget supporting a centralized reporting system for missing children and the centralized system for storing information on dead bodies must be addressed. We have to approach this from a business standpoint. In Mr. Reagan's recent speech in New Orleans on the epidemic of crime in the United States, he said, "we will seek closer cooperation between Federal, State and Local officials on law enforcement and prison problems," etc. What we are proposing in the way of a centralized computer system for missing children and also a computer system for the identification of bodies in The Missing Childrens Act is just what Mr. Reagan is talking about. But, since he is such an economy minded president, let's address the facts from a budgetary viewpoint. If there are 50,000 children a year that are missing in the United States, as a conservative figure, and they meet the requirements of The Missing Childrens Act, that they have not attained the age of 17 years of age, do not have a previous history of running away, on the basis of available evidence, are not the victim of abduction by a parent, and have been missing for at least 24-hours, then this number could be easily stored in a computer that could be linked up with police agencies throughout the United States. The 10,000 or so missing bodies and information concerning them, would put no burden on this particular computer whatsoever.

Let's address the real problem...

The reaction of the majority of the 20,000 letters we received were of deep sympathy, shock and in many, many cases, frustration. Why frustration?

We have been classified in the papers and by many people and interviews with friends as an "all American family". I don't know what that means, but I do know that prior to this incident with Adam we were great believers in the United States of America. I have traveled throughout the world and seen the misery that people who live in other countries exist and under the oppression that many of them labor. My beliefs in this system have been shaken to the core. No matter how hard we try we can't stop thinking about how Adam must have felt in the hands of his abductor and the thoughts that went through his mind. Everyone, including us, would like to block out these thoughts of this beautiful six year old boy and remember him as the child he was. But, the reality of Adam's death is something that we have to deal with. All we have is part of him to cremate and we will spread those remains over the ocean that he loved so dearly. But what of the other parents? Many of whom are still searching and will never give up hope. And must deal with the constant horror of what has happened to their small children.

According to Bereaved Parents, an organization of charters throughout the United States of parents with deceased or murdered children, 90% of the marriages fail as a result of the trauma of a death of a child. Many of the people in this bracket, as well as members of the 100,000 children snatched by ex-parents and runaways, are also devasted financially. From our own personal experience, this devastated us financially. It cost every bit of savings we had as well as whatever money we could borrow, to search for Adam. The amount of time lost at work, the need for emotional counseling, the lost tax dollars, and the emotional wrecks of surviving parents that are cast on the welfare system of our society is enormous. If you could calculate these uncalculable figures they would far outweigh the cost of a centralized reporting system for missing bodies and missing children.

Looking at it from a businessman's standpoint, the bottom line here is that nothing is being done in the way of storage and classification of information on missing children or unidentified bodies, but yet the reality of the devistated emotional and financial survivors is a burden on the economy of this country.

Included in this statement you will see a letter from Child Find, a non-profit organization in New York. As a result of our one appearance on national television with David Hartman, three children have been located. If this could be done by one seven minute interview on network television, it is incalculable to think what the vast progress of the federal government could do to assist in this problem.

Since our return, we have appeared on many talk shows, one in the midwest, several in South Florida and we are scheduled to appear on future talk shows and a reappearance on "Good Morning America". We feel we have a definite story to tell, but the general reaction of the public, when we speak with them, whether through the media or through our small Adam Walsh Outreach Center of Missing Children, is one of complete amazement that no system exists within this country to look for missing children. Everyone seems to take the attitude, "I thought that the government could do that". Apparently people believe what they see on television, that when a small child is missing, the FBI comes in immediately with an individual similar to Robert Stack in the role of Elliot Ness and that a SWAT team swoops down on the villains and the child is found. The grim reality is that of what happened to Adam. In most cases the individuals get no support or help whatsoever and return to their homes emotionally and financially devastated. In most cases, the child is either never found alive or dead. We could go on and on quoting instances, statistics, personal experiences, and I would bring everyone of these to Congress if that needs be the case.

Believe me little children do not run away, as many police agencies think. Again we say, right now at this very moment there are little children out there in the hands of whatever, crying, pleading and are begging that mommy and daddy or Mr. Policeman or some one come to their aid or look for them to save them. We are realists and we are not asking for a national police force to search for every missing child, just asking for a centralized system and that the FBI assist whenever possible when a sighting of a child is out of state and the local police can't follow up that lead. It's not too much to ask of this "great society".

It is an awesome responsibility that this committee has in telling this tale to the rest of the legislative members of the Senate and House of Representatives. As we have said, our beliefs in the system have been shaken to the core. We ask along with hundreds of thousands of people who prayed for Adam and are now praying for us, that you the lawmakers of this country, who have the power to do something that our forefathers dreamt, will make this a reality. That is to guarantee the personal freedoms of everyone in this country including children.

As one letter expressed, "Multi-million dollar investigations have been conducted against violators of man-made-laws, while those who transgress against the only real laws of mankind - God's commandments - are looked upon as statistics, if that. If our government had its priorities in order, the focus of our criminal justice system could be aimed at those who rob, rape, maim, and kill at random. The danger is not organized crime, it is disorganized crime which fill our streets with violence and our hearts with fear."

Granted children don't vote and don't pay taxes, but they are definitely the resources of this country because someday they will be the future lawmakers and the guardians of us in our old age. It is too late for Adam and it is sad because we feel he would have been a fine citizen, but it is not too late for us to tell Adam's story to everyone and we will.

There are two negative developments in this continuing problem.

First, we have received information from the office of Clay Shaw, Congressman from South Florida who has co-sponsored The Missing Childrens Act in the House of Representatives that the committee chaired by Peter Rondino of New Jersey and subcommittee Chairman, Don Edwards of California, have not even scheduled subcommittee investigative hearings on this critical issue for the remainder of this legislative term. We are well aware of the legislative process and know that if this bill does not pass both the House and Senate and is not signed by the President it will die. We commend Senator Paula Hawkins and the members of this subcommittee on their positive and aggressive action in addressing this national problem. BUT, is the House of Representatives in a coma or do none of the members have children?

Second, for us personally the nightmare continues. Two possible, but not probable, suspects in Adam's case are now in custody. The first suspect recently raped and bludgeoned a six year old boy and left him unconscious near railroad tracks in a remote area of Florida. The boy subsequently died in the hospital, never regaining consciousness. In the effects of the suspect was found a diary logging and evaluating in his own perverse terms the homosexual rape, assault and possible murder of 25 victims, young boys ranging in age of ten years and younger. The acts of violence were carried out throughout two states in the last two years. A second suspect, in custody in an Eastern State, a twice convicted child molester on parole, had newspaper articles concerning Adam's tragedy pasted throughout his room. There were approximately 45 incidents having occured throughout four states during a three year period as described by the suspect. These are statistics kept by no agencies, known only to the parents of the missing chidren and to God who only knows where these children are now. Subsequently, in a mini warehouse the gruesome articles of his 20 year career were discovered. Among the effects found were six sets of small boys clothing, pornographic literature dealing with sadism, detailed diaries, correspondence with another child molester, the grisley tools of his trade, whips, chains, paddles and sticks as well as cassette tapes. As I listened to the tapes I saw tears in the eyes of six street-wise, supposedly hardened homocide detectives, continuing to listen to the screams, cries and pleadings of those young voices, hoping against hope not to hear the sounds of my own sons voice, I became physically ill. I will never be able to forget those cries, nor thoughts of the parents who are still wondering.

Unless the public becomes more aware, and the legislative bodies of this country address this tragic problem, everyone should be forced to hear those tapes.

We put our faith in the good side of humanity, as demonstrated by the thousands of people who helped in Adam's case. And we put our faith in you and the Supreme Being, that He will assist you in seeing your way clear to do everything in your power to help the helpless ones. The ones who hold a very special place in His eyes, the children.

With some hope left,

Missing Person

DONATIONS FOR

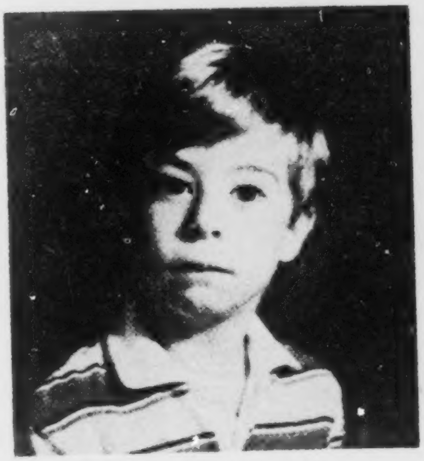
REWARD

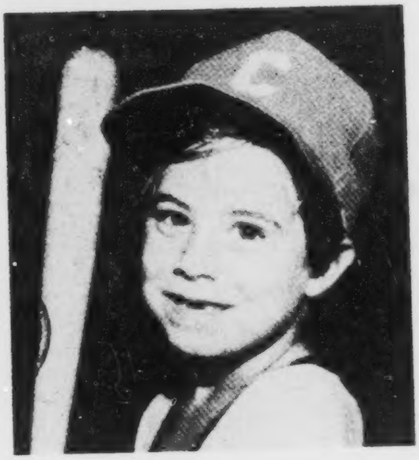
NOW TOTAL MORE THAN

$100,000.00

FOR INFORMATION
LEADING TO THE SAFE RETURN
OF

Adam Walsh





DESCRIPTION:
Age: 6 years old
Height: 3' 6''
Weight: 45 lbs.
Eyes: Hazel
Build: Slight
Hair: Straight Sandy Blond

Other: Missing one top tooth with second tooth coming in

CLOTHING WORN WHEN LAST SEEN:
Pants: Green shorts
Shirt: Short sleeve pullover, predominantly red & white striped
Shoe: Rubber Sandals (Yellow Bottoms and Blue Straps)
Hat: Beige Colored Boat Captain's Hat

PLEASE help us find Adam Walsh. Last seen and missing from Hollywood Mall Sears Toy Department, Monday, July 27, 1981, around 12 noon.

We are willing to negotiate ransom on ANY terms. Strict confidentiality. DO NOT FEAR REVENGE! We will not prosecute. We only want our son. If desired, contact any radio or T.V. station, newspaper or any other media as a neutral party for negotiations or information. We want Adam home. If you think you see him, ask him his name.

If you have any information, PLEASE call or write either:

Hollywood Police Department
3250 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, Florida 33021
Detective Bureau: (305) 921-3911

Parents:
John and Reve Walsh
2801 McKinley Street
Hollywood, Florida 33020
Phone: (305) 922-4454

Senator HAWKINS. Thank you, Mr. Walsh.

Mrs. Bell?

Mrs. BELL. Madam Chairman, on October 21, 1979, Yusuf, my 9-year-old son, was asked by a neighbor to go to the store. She was an elderly lady and could not pay him for going, and none of the other children in the neighborhood would go for nothing, and he would; that is why he was asked.

He left at around 4 o'clock, going to a store that was three blocks away—a store that he had gone to almost daily since he was 7. He got to the store, he bought what he was sent for, started home, and he did not get back. By 5 o'clock, we were very concerned because it was not like Yusuf to loiter and not come back, especially when he was on an errand for someone else; he was a relatively responsible child.

We had people out looking in the community. Mrs. Fletcher, who lived in the housing project above where we lived, put a group of people out to check around. We sent people to check at friends' houses and neighbors' houses, and he was not there.

We called the police at a little after 6, and by 6:45 they were there. They took a report. One of the policemen remembered seeing him because even though it was October, it was in the upper 80's and Yusuf was wearing a pair of brown shorts and no shoes and no shirt. And the policeman saw him going to the store and said that he reminded him of the last days of summer.

They took a report; they drove around; they did not find him. The next day, missing persons was brought into the case at around 10 the next morning. The reason for the lag of missing persons was that at that time in Atlanta, missing persons was open from 8 to 8, Monday through Friday.

The missing persons department at that time had four people on staff whose responsibility was missing persons and abused children. They did probably the best job that any four people could be expected to do, but there were only four of them and it is a massive job in an area that consists of 1.5 million people.

Yusuf did not turn up, and I pulled together a search. The police department could not do a search; they did not have the manpower, or they said they did not. I got the ROTC of Smith High School to get together with me and the two missing persons police officers who were assigned to the case, and we did a search of the community about a week later. At that point, we did not find anything.

The story had come on the news a few days after he disappeared and then it faded away. My son Jonathan, who had acted as child chairman of the infant stocking fund in 1978, suggested that I call Lewis Grizzard, who is a columnist and who had acted as adult chairman that same year. He did a column and the story was picked up again by local media.

Several days went by and nothing happened. On November 4, a child's body was found, and everyone thought it was Yusuf. It was not; it was the body of Milton Harvey, who was a young man who had disappeared in September, and the community was not aware that he was gone—the Atlanta area.

Things went on for a while, and on November 8, Yusuf's body was found in an abandoned school that should have been boarded up but was not. In Atlanta at that time, we had difficulty getting a search done. We had difficulty getting news coverage. The general area was not notified; we were not able to get the message out because we did not have the influence, the money, the power, the things that are necessary to get a story told.

Finally, when he was found, the community did rally quite a bit and there was help that came from within the community. That was a little late; Yusuf had been strangled, and things went on, and things go on now.

[The prepared statement of Mrs. Bell follows:]

TESTIMONY OF

MRS. CAMILLE BELL

In Atlanta, Georgia, on July 28 of 1979 two bodies were found on Niskey Lake Road, 50 yards apart, both were bodies of 14 year old boys. As far as can be determined neither boy knew the other. A very scanty 10 line report of this incident was written in the local paper (one boy was shot; the other strangled). One was identified as Edward Hope Smith.

On September 4, 1979, another 14 year old disappeared, Milton Harvey, his disappearance went unreported in the media even though his bicycle was found 2 days later.

On October 21, at around 4:00 p.m., Yusuf, my nine year old son, left home to go to the store for a neighbor. When he had not returned by 5:00 we became concerned because it was not like him to dawdle. By 5:30 we had people all over the neighborhood looking for him. Marie Fletcher, Chairperson of the McDaniel Glen Tennant Association organized a search of the near-by housing project and surrounding area west of us. The houses of neighbors and friends were called, or visited.

Around 6:45 the police were called. The patrol cars arrived a little after 7 p.m. The Missing Persons Office was not involved until after 10 a.m. the next day. This was because Missing Persons is only open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. Yusuf disappeared on a Sunday.

At that point Missing Persons consisted of a sergeant and three detectives. Detective O'Neil, Richardson and Bibles; all worked on the case. These four people were responsible for ALL missing persons and child abuse cases in Atlanta. Detectives O'Neil and Bibles took the initial report. Detective Richardson interviewed children at his school to determine if they had seen him. I contend that these four people did the best job possible considering the limited manpower they had available and the massive job they had to do.

In the days that followed, the detectives and I talked to many people and followed up many leads all leading nowhere. Yusuf's picture was run on local T.V. that Wednesday. By Saturday the local media was no longer carrying the story. On October 30, I called Lewis Grizzard, a local columnist and asked him to run a story. On October 31, he did. Because of his story, local media picked the story up again. Yusuf was a good student and was considered gifted by the Atlanta City Schools. He was running for Treasurer of his school, he was a member of Boys Club and a budding drummer and trumpet player. He had an excellent attendance record in school, and the respect of both the children and the adults in his community.

On November 4, a child's body was found. It was not Yusuf. It was Milton Harvey, the boy who disappeared in September, 1979. This was the first time that I considered the possibility that I might never see him alive again. On November 8, 1979, another body was found in an old abandoned school; less than a mile away, that should have been boarded up, but wasn't. It was Yusuf. He had been strangled. There was a massive out-pouring of love and support during the next two weeks. The Homicide Department worked actively for awhile.

By December they were slowed down and by January it seemed to have come to a halt. When I would call Homicide the Detective handling my case would never be in nor would he return my call. It was a cold winter for me. It seemed as if my baby was dead and nobody cared!! In February, 1980, Crime Stoppers did a story and offered a reward but nothing came of it.

On March 4, Angel Lanier, 12, disappeared. She was found on March 10, 1980, strangled, raped, and tied to a tree. On March 11, 1980, Jeffery Mathis age 10, disappeared.

In May, 1980, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Mathis, and I were invited to coffee get-together by Mary Mapp, a CB Community Activist. It was in honor of a cab driver who had been shot. She thought we should get to know one another. We met and formed a support group that was the beginning of what was to become the Committee to Stop Children's Murders in Atlanta. On the 18th of May, Eric Middlebrooks 14, disappeared and was found later that night bloudgeoned to death. We visited his mother and she became apart of our group. On June 9th Christopher Richardson, 11, disappeared; we visted his mother and she too became apart of our group. In mid June, we started passing out flyers in shopping centers that told about the missing children, Jeffery and Chris, and the other murdered children. These flyers were asking for information on the childrens whereabouts because the children had for the most part disappeared in the day time or early evening, we felt that someone must have known something.

On June 22, La'Tanya Wilson was stolen from her house, on June 24, Aaron Wyche 10, was found below a rail-road bridge. We included the Wilsons and later the Wyche boy's grandparents. We were told about his fear of heights. On July 1, 1980, we went to the Mayor's office (he was unavailable) where we said that something unusual was going on. We were told by an Aide that the matter would be looked into but that they didn't want to alarm the city. We then went to the police department. The Chief was busy and the head of Homicide could not see that the cases were related.

4 14 year old boys
3 5th grade boys
3 Strangulations
3 Gifted Children
2 bodies found at the same time and close to another
a 9 year old, two 10 year olds, an 11 year old and a 12 year old disappeared from near home in the day time.

With all these seemingly connective factors the city government could see no connections.

We continued to leaflet the community seeking leads. On July 5th, Anthony Carter age 9, disappeared, on July 7th he was found stabbed to death. On July 8th we went to the Public Safety Committee of Atlanta's City Council. We asked for the formation of a task force that consisted of FBI, GBI, and Atlanta Police Departments to solve this crime. On July 16th, 1980, a "task force" was formed. It had consisted of one sergeant and four detectives. Only one of them had any real information about the disappearences or murders; Detective Richardson!

In the beginning it seemed that the purpose of the task force was more to prove that the cases were unrelated than to solve the cases. On July 30, Earl Terrell, 10, disappeared.

On August 21, 1980, Clifford Jones, 12, disappeared and was found dead on August 22, 1980. Clifford was visiting form Cleveland, Ohio with his grandmother. He had only been in Atlanta two weeks. When Clifford was found there was a Black Shriners Convention in Cleveland. The stories were reported in the Cleveland newspapers and the task force jumped from five to seventeen. Clifford's cause of death--asphyxiation.

During this time the Committee was holding public safety seminars, passing out literature, doing a private investigation and conducting a hotline for clues. We were also providing moral support for families and planning the largest safe Halloween Festival in the history of Atlanta.

In late October, 1980, a day care center in Bowen Homes (a housing project) had an explosion. Four children, all under four years old, and a teacher were killed. People took to the streets. They believed that the center had been bombed and that racist whites were doing it; they felt that the same people who had bombed the center; had kidnapped and killed the 14 children. They said so to the national media and the task force jumped to 35 members. On November 1, Aaron Jackson disappeared and was found November 2, dead of asphyxiation. From month to month the number increased and the size of the task force increased. Our committee members kept the people informed about as many facts as possible.

After the explosion, curfew legislation was passed. The implication being that if the children were kept off the streets after 11, they wouldn't be dead. When in fact not one child who was dead or missing at that point would have been in violation of curfew if it had been enforced. This was one of the first of many attempts at blaming the victims. It was implied that the children were homosexual prostitutes when in fact the only child that had been molested was a girl; and the question was not homosexuality or heterosexuality but MURDER. This is known as clouding the issue.

It was even suggested that the children's street wise criminal activities got them into trouble. None of the children (under 17) had criminal records and only 3 had Juvenile status offense records.

It was implied that most of the children lived in projects and on welfare, this is just not true!! Although some were on welfare, most weren't, and though some lived in projects, most didn't.

These were really average ordinary children. But an active effort was made to imply that they were criminal or at least neglected, unsupervised and incorregible children.

Stop the Children's Murders, Incorporated has been formed by parents and community people for the purpose of building a society in which children are a high priority item on any agenda. Not just the children of the rich and powerful but the children of our nation and world!!!

The bill before the Senate is one of the first steps toward making this a reality and I thank you for making my testimony possible!!

Senator HAWKINS. Thank you, Mrs. Bell.

Mrs. Patz, I know from reading your testimony and talking with you that your ordeal has continued over the past 2½ years. I was greatly disturbed about the treatment that you and your family had received from members of the community.

Could you discuss some of these experiences and your thoughts on the unique difficulties that face a parent whose child is missing, and maybe give us some ideas on how to correct these problems?

Mrs. PATZ. One of the first things that stands out vividly was one of our first experiences with the media during the first week after our son disappeared. A newspaper photographer came into our home, which was then doubling as police headquarters, and approached me with the question:

> Mrs. Patz, could you kindly arrange a few tears so that when they find your son's body, I will not have to come back and disturb you again?

The following day, that same newspaper—namely, the New York Post—published an article based on an anonymous telephone tip. Although the facts in that telephone information had not been confirmed, the article was published to the effect that our son's whereabouts were known; that he was with relatives in another State, with our knowledge, and that the public and the police had a cruel hoax played upon them. True, the article did not state so in no uncertain terms, but it indicated and hinted that such was the case.

Immediately, the posters which had been so laboriously put up by friends and neighbors and concerned individuals around the country came down. By the following day, large segments of the population of this country knew that our son had been found, under strange circumstances, but nonetheless home and well, the only problem being that we still had no idea where Etan was.

As we attempted to refute the information that was disseminated as a result of this particular media article, people became confused, and then their confusion turned to suspicion. It was, at this point, approximately 1½ weeks into our situation, that the rumors began; the rumors persist today.

The rumors have all come back to us personally from strangers on the street, through friends, that, like Alice Crimmins, my husband and/or I had, in fact, killed our son; that either my husband or I, depending on whom you were speaking to, had a lover who was taking care of our son and hiding him until things cooled down and the three of them, or my lover, I and my son could be together; that the entire incident was a publicity stunt to launch our son's modeling career; that Etan had, in fact, been abducted by a relative who felt that his religious education and home situation were totally inadequate; and even that Etan had been physically abused by us, his parents, and had justifiably run away.

As time continued with no answers, people in the public, just as members of my family, demanded answers. Where there were none, they made up their own. After a period of approximately 2½ weeks, the police moved their base of operations from our home back to police headquarters. For the first time since our son had disappeared, my husband and I and other two children were able to be together as a family.

Suddenly, reality started sinking in. We knew we had dealt with hundreds of police officers. Had perhaps some vital data been missing in the confusion? And there was confusion. We suddenly realized the incredible importance of sticking together as a family unit to get through what might lie ahead.

Standing out foremost in my mind is the fact that we could not continue to rely on others to hold us up; that we had to stick together and bury ourselves in the routines of daily life, doing the shopping, going to school, washing the clothes, in order to keep ourselves going.

We kept in constant contact with our family doctors, knowing that at any moment we could not be certain that any of us might not fall flat and be totally unable to function. The emotional stress was incredible. My husband and I both feared having to face this alone if the other of us should succumb to depression and to grief.

Family and friends could no longer provide the help we needed because they had their own problems. Etan's grandmother suffered severe emotional distress and her overall physical health has been very seriously impaired.

Etan's best friend, one of his peers, was totally unable to cope and put under a doctor's care. This child's mother came very close to a total emotional breakdown and was forced to leave the city and put our situation behind her in order that she might continue her own life. Our friends were desperately trying to make new arrangements and readjust their lives to deal with the fact that their own children might be in danger on the streets.

As we pushed our friends away due to our own need to stand on our own feet and continue our lives, despite the depression and the grief and the panic, our friends were hurt and they felt totally ineffective. They wanted to help desperately and could not. At the same time, they were falling under suspicion by the police department. As we filled the police in on the details of our friends' and neighbors' lives, they were being questioned and they were being given polygraph tests.

Soon, we found ourselves virtually alone, with the exception of the police and the media. It was easier for our friends to stay away from us, especially while they were suspect.

Then we had another fear. What if we also lost police support? Could we possibly locate our son with our own resources? It was certainly very doubtful. As the police left and our virtual, though not actual, house arrest terminated and I began to go back onto the streets without a police escort, I was confronted by individuals, those I knew and those whom I did not know, from the neighborhood.

People would approach me and criticize me for having been a neglectful and irresponsible mother. I was asked by one group of mothers how I felt knowing that my son might be dead and it was entirely my fault. As friends approached me, they would cross the street to avoid a potentially uncomfortable situation.

In spite of this, my husband and I realized that we had to go on with life and regain some sense of normality. We went on outings with our children. On a couple of occasions, as I was seen laughing in public with my other two children, I had strangers approach me and suggest that if I were so totally uncaring and unfeeling, perhaps our son was better off away from us.

Unlike now, in my media appearances particularly on television, I have always been able to maintain composure that confused people—the public, basically. We received public and private criticism for that composure which we needed to get us through this ordeal. We lost public sympathy because we would not break down on television and because our family did not fall apart. To many, it became more suspect and more sinister.

This was all very difficult for us, but much more traumatic for our other two children. As we attempted to continue some sort of normal routine with our two remaining children, who were then 8 and 2 years old, a lead would come in. The phone would ring and a detective would say, "We need you." Plans were totally canceled.

When we did manage to get out with our children, strangers would approach us with sympathy, with suggestions, with psychic information, and what have you. Slowly, we became public property; our privacy was almost nonexistent.

As the police leads and participation decreased drastically, yes, we welcomed the media. We realized the incredible value the media could be in disseminating our son's photograph and information on our situation. They could reach many people that the police were totally unable to reach. It was something we felt we had no choice about; we had to utilize the media to the fullest if we had any hopes of regaining our son or finding out what had happened to him.

At this point, our only contact with other people was with media and with police officers. They were our only outlets for the incredibly large store of leads and information that we had inside of us. The case was still then open and active and we could not discuss any of it, except vaguely, with the media. To this day, we cannot discuss any of it. We have had no outlet for the horrors we stored up inside.

But as we became more and more public property, the nightmare became even worse. Psychics would phone and ring our doorbell saying, "I know where your son is." That is how the conversation usually started. The emotionally disturbed found us or rang our doorbell. One came to our home and walked in and said, "You are not going to believe me, but I have become your son and I have come home for dinner."

With every bit of additional media coverage, new leads poured in. Our hopes were raised and again dashed. If a child disappeared in another State, the media was again at our doorstep. A child returned home in still another State; again, the phone did not stop ringing and people did not stop ringing our doorbell.

I received obscene phone calls. Hate mail began to appear in our mailbox. We were approached by religious groups who informed us that our son had been taken away from us because we had failed our God. Others told us we would not receive our son back until we had made the proper sacrifice to still yet another god, and I mean sacrifice; I mean a lamb.

Parents of other missing children began calling us for help and for advice, which was a strange situation to be in; some simply to talk to someone whom they knew would understand what they had gone through and were still going through.

We had been target of a number of extortion attempts, people who have approached us and said, "We will return your son or we will tell you where we can find him if you pay us." A local child pornography ring was broken in our neighborhood, and once more there was an onslaught from media and police.

We received many calls from people who had spent their entire lives looking for missing loved ones. One that sticks out in my mind is a phone call from a man and his wife. The man was in his 60's. When he was 6 years old, one of his siblings disappeared. This man had spent virtually 60 years of his life, devoting almost all of his energies toward locating that missing sibling.

At that point, my husband and I became very determined that this would not happen to our children, if we could possibly avoid it. In the meantime, our other two children have their own particular problems. Our daughter, then 8 years old, was avoided totally by her peer group at school. When she approached them, they told her quite frankly that the discomfort and the sorrow they felt in her company was something with which they could not deal; they chose to be away from her.

Older children in the school were fearful that she might not be able to face the possible reality of her brother's death and took it upon themselves to remind her of that possibility daily. Local children sought her out—children not her friends, hangers-on who gloried in the publicity, and expressed their desire to her that their own siblings might disappear so they, too, could have a chance to appear on television.

Our daughter is extremely intelligent and she was sufficiently of the world to be able to speculate on many, if not most, of the possible fates that might have befallen her brother. Speculation marred her waking hours and sleep gave way to terrible nightmares, which have subsided but not completely stopped.

Last month, our 5-year-old son began public school. He is not attending the public school we feel could best meet his educational needs because that would mean attending the school his missing brother went to, having the same teachers, being with all of his missing brother's best friends. Problems would have been created for everyone. We did not feel we had the right to do this to anyone involved.

Our son and our daughter both feel the vacuum created by their brother's disappearance. Our daughter misses her relationship with a sibling closer to her own age. Our son, now 5, is totally dissatisfied with his own peer group and seeks out older children and cultivates friendships with them. He even goes so far as to suggest that some of these older children might come home and live with us permanently; perhaps we could even change their name to Etan.

All of this has occurred after he failed in his own attempts to, in fact, become his brother—a very strange experience for my husband and myself. At age 2, he attempted to take on his brother's possessions, his mannerisms, his routines. Failing that, he is seeking his brother elsewhere in other children.

Since, during the early weeks after our son's disappearance, we were unable to spend time with our other two children, our 2-year-old was told by friends who were most helpful and had the best intentions that his brother was lost, an unfortunate use of terms.

When we got back together in the same house, if not functioning as a family, my son, Ari, would approach us regularly saying, "Etan is lost; go out and find him, Mommy. You find my toys when they are lost." After giving up on my husband and myself as being totally unable to locate his missing brother, he put total faith in the police. The head detective in charge of our case, Bill Butler, was going to find his missing brother; he knew it.

After a few months, Ari, even though he was only still 2 years old, realized that that was not going to work out. At this point in time, Ari is attempting to eat as much as he can and grow as quickly as he can because he has decided that it will be his responsibility to locate Etan.

My son would not be the first sibling to leave at an early age to locate a missing brother or sister. We hope to avoid that. He is in therapy in hopes that we can avoid that. There is no guarantee, however.

After about a year of this, we were getting desperate. Leads were few and far between. We saw TV specials on the subject. We approached politicians for their help; we got a lot of sympathy, a lot of sense of, "Well, we would love to get involved, but we do not know if we have the authority. If we do it for you, we will be inundated with requests. If, in fact, the figures you are quoting us turn out to be valid, there are too many for us to deal with." Most sympathetic, but "where is your data?"

We could not get them data; we were unable to make contact with anyone who had accurate and complete data on a national level as to how many children disappeared annually. We attempted to get our son's photograph into every public and private school throughout the country because we had contacted people who had relocated numerous missing children, alive and well—as well as can be expected—under assumed names in the school systems, both public and private, and had been placed there by their abductors, for whatever the purpose of the abduction.

We were able to obtain a list of public schools, but not private schools, and even that endeavor was far beyond us physically and financially. We did obtain help from Congressman Peyser of New York, who was able to facilitate getting our son's photograph into major educational journals, in the hopes that they would reach these schools, but there were no guarantees.

At this time, we had increased contact with families of other missing children and the independent, grass-roots groups across the country that had sprung up to deal with this issue and to work for legislation began contacting us. Once again, we had something to occupy our time while we waited for the miracle that would give us back our son. It was becoming difficult, but there was still hope.

There were two other major campaigns open to us in the search for our son. One was the use of private detectives; the other, an offering of a large reward. We did not have the finances to effect either campaign, and although many moneys were offered, when it came right down to it, none were ever received.

We come to the present. The lives we have now and our business contacts are basically new to us. We have put our lives which ended 2½ years ago virtually behind us, not by choice, but by circumstance. The friends we have now are friends we have made since our son has disappeared. The business contacts we have now are business contacts we have made since our son disappeared.

Financially, we are deeply in debt. This is largely for two reasons: One, expenditures in the effort to locate our son; and, two, the lack of income. The lack of income resulted from two major areas. One, during virtually the first 3 months after our son disappeared, we were physically and emotionally, because of the intensive police investigation, unable to work.

I had run a day care center in my home. The afternoon of my son's disappearance, that school came to an end abruptly, as our home was turned into a police headquarters. Due to extended involvement in police matters, I have been unable to open that school and my attempts at finding a job in my field at other schools have proven fruitless.

I began to suspect why, but finally one school director had the courage to face me and say, "I must be concerned about the attitudes of those parents who attend this school. I suspect that there will be great opposition if I hire you." I was not hired.

After an interview for employment at another school, the director was approached by a group of parents opposing my hiring. They did not feel comfortable having a potential child murderer, since no one knew what had happened to our son, teaching their children.

It has become evident that I must find a new career. It will be related to children, but it requires not being in the classroom; it requires additional college training, which we cannot afford at this time.

My husband, a free-lance photographer, was emotionally unable to work for a far longer period than I. During that time, of necessity, his clients found other photographers. When my husband was again able to work, it was easier for them to continue with their new photographers. Many clients of my husband's with whom he had become friends felt it too uncomfortable to deal with him on a business level or on any level.

My husband and I have known the guilt of not being allowed to provide properly for our family financially. Although the intensity of the search has decreased, by and large these effects will be with us for the rest of our lives. We are not the same people we were. To whatever degree we might have been, the people around us have never allowed us to be.

Senator **Hawkins**. Thank you, Mrs. Patz, for giving us some insight. It took a lot of courage, and I am sure it is a facet to this national tragedy that most of us were unaware of.

Senator Kennedy?

Senator **Kennedy**. I think all of us who have listened to this testimony this morning have some understanding of the extraordinary difficulty that it is for you to share these experiences with us and with the American people.

I do not think there is a parent in this country who could listen to these stories and not feel the extraordinary sense not only of loss that all of you have felt, but trace the activities of their own children and wonder about their safety and their security. And I think you have got great courage and strength to come here and share this experience with us.

I suppose the only question I would ask—we can try and wrestle around with the steps that can be taken, but I would be interested in hearing, perhaps, from each of you what you might be willing to tell other parents that might be of some help and assistance to them if they are confronted with the kinds of tragedies which you have experienced. What could you say to them that might give them at least some strength and some hope, really, as difficult as that might be?

Mrs. **Bell**. At this point, for most parents who are not extremely affluent there is not much hope that you can give them. They can pray; they can do what they can with the sons that they have. They cannot even be guaranteed that their police department is going to follow up on the case at all, if they consider their child a runaway. They cannot even be certain that even if the child is not considered a runaway, if that child is found alive in another State, that child will ever be returned home because of the lack of being able to coordinate who this child is with whom they are looking for.

Of course, if the child is found dead, there is a major likelihood that that child, if it is found in another area, possibly even within that State, will be buried in a Jane or John Doe grave and that those parents will look for that child the rest of their lives.

The best that the parents of Atlanta have been able to offer to each other is the understanding that, "I know what you are feeling. I love you; I care, and we will have to struggle through it together." That is all the hope that we in Atlanta have been able to offer to anybody at this point.

Mrs. **Patz**. There is one hope, however. We and our own individual families and groups cannot do it. There is hope if the public and law enforcement jointly can work on this, and it has to be joint and it has to be national. There is perhaps additional need for State legislatures to enact some laws for law enforcement.

But we cannot do it. We have been fighting for years, one of us for 11 years. We have finally gotten to someone willing to listen, and we are grateful. There is hope, but only if everyone works together and only if people are willing to face the fact that it can happen to anyone out there. It has got to be faced and something has got to be done about it, but not a few, small, scattered individuals, not a few, small, scattered groups, but everybody. It is vital; it has got to be a joint effort on the part of the public, the politicians, and law enforcement. That is the only way it can happen, but that can happen.

Mr. **Walsh**. I address it in a different way, Senator. We received about 20,000 letters from people throughout the country after Adam's misfortune, and many, many of these letters expressed your question to us. What can we say? What can we do? How can we help the parents?

Most of the letters expressed deep sympathy, shock, and in many cases, frustration. Why frustration? We have been classified in the papers by many people and interviews with friends as an all-American family. I do not know what that means, but I know that prior to this incident with Adam, we were great believers in the United States of America.

I have traveled throughout the world and seen the misery that people exist in and under the oppression that many of them labor. My beliefs in this system have been shaken to the core. No matter how hard we try, we cannot stop thinking about how Adam must have felt in the hands of his abductor and the thoughts that went through his mind. Everyone, including us, would like to block out these thoughts of this beautiful 6-year-old boy and remembering him as the child he was. But all we have is part of him to cremate and we will spread these remains over the ocean he so dearly loved.

But what of the other parents? Many of them are still searching and will never give up hope and must deal with the constant horror of what has happened to their small children. Most of the people we have contacted or spoken to express complete amazement: "I thought the government could do that." Apparently, people believe what they see on television. When a small child is missing, the FBI comes in immediately with an individual similar to Robert Stack in the role of Elliott Ness, and a swat team swoops down on the villains and the child is found.

The grim reality is that which happened to Adam. In most cases, these individuals get no support or help whatsoever and return to their homes emotionally and financially devastated. In most cases, the child is neither found alive or dead. We could go on and on quoting instances of statistics and personal experiences, and I would bring every one of these to Congress if need be.

Believe me, little children do not run away, as many police agencies think. Again, right now at this very moment, there are little children out there in the hands of whomever or whatever, crying and pleading, begging mommy and daddy or Mr. Policeman, or someone, to come to their aid and look for them.

We are realists. We are not asking for a national police force to search for every missing child; just a centralized system and that the FBI assist whenever possible when a sighting of a child is out of State and the local police cannot follow up that lead. It is not too much to ask of this great society.

It is an awesome responsibility that this committee has in telling this tale to the rest of the legislative Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. That is what I am telling people. As we have said, our beliefs in the system have been shaken. We ask, along with hundreds of thousands of people who prayed for Adam and are now praying for us, that you, the lawmakers of this country, who have the power to do something that our forefathers dreamed, will make this a reality; this is to guarantee the personal freedoms of everyone in this country, including children.

As one letter expressed, multimillion-dollar investigations have been conducted against violators of manmade laws, while those who transgress against the only real laws of mankind, God's commandments, are looked upon as statistics. If our Government had its priorities in order, the focus of our criminal justice system could be aimed at those who rob, rape, maime, and kill at random. The danger is not organized crime; it is disorganized crime which fills our streets with violence and our hearts with fear.

Granted, children do not vote and do not pay taxes, but they are definitely the resources of this country because some day they are the future lawmakers and the guardians of us in our old age. It is too late for Adam, and it is sad because we feel he would have been a good citizen. But it is not too late for us to tell Adam's story. There are two negative developments in this continuing story. First, we have received information from the office of Clay Shaw, a Congressman from south Florida who has cosponsored the Missing Children's Act in the House of Representatives, that the committee chaired by Peter Rodino of New Jersey and subcommittee Chairman Don Edwards of California have not even scheduled subcommittee investigative hearings on this critical issue for the remainder of this legislative term.

We are well aware of the legislative process and know that if this bill does not pass both the House and Senate and is not signed by the President, it will die. We commend Senator Paula Hawkins and the members of the subcommittee such as yourself and the staff on their positive and aggressive action in addressing this national problem, and we implore you to make your colleagues in the House aware of the urgency of this lifesaving bill.

Finally, for us, the personal nightmare continues. Two possible but not probable suspects in Adam's case are now in custody. The first suspect recently raped and bludgeoned a 6-year-old boy and left him unconscious near railroad tracks in a remote area of Florida. The boy subsequently died in the hospital, never regaining consciousness.

In the effects of the suspect was found a diary, logging and evaluating in his own perverse terms and homosexual rage, rape, assault, and possible murder of 25 victims—young boys ranging in age of 10 years and younger. The acts of violence were carried out throughout two States in the last 2 years.

A second suspect in custody in an eastern State, a twice-convicted child molester on parole, had newspaper articles concerning Adam's tragedy pasted throughout his room. There were approximately 45 incidents having occurred throughout four States during a 2-year period, as described by this suspect in his own diaries.

These are statistics kept by no agency, known only to the parents of the missing children and to God, who only knows where these children are now. Subsequently, in a miniwarehouse the gruesome article of this suspect's 20-year career were discovered.

Among the effects were six sets of small boys' clothing, pornographic literature dealing with sadism, detailed diaries, correspondence with another child molester, and the grizzly tools of his trade—whips, chains, paddles, sticks, and cassette tapes.

As I listened to the tapes, I saw tears in the eyes of six streetwise, supposedly hardened homicide detectives. Continuing to listen to the screams and cries and pleadings of those young voices, hoping against hope not to hear the sounds of my own son's voice, I became physically ill. I will never be able to forget those cries, nor the thoughts of the parents who are still wondering.

Unless the public becomes aware and the legislative bodies of this country address this tragic problem, everyone should be forced to listen to those tapes. We put our faith in the good side of humanity, all of us here at this table, as demonstrated by the thousands of people who helped in Adam's case. And we put our faith in you and in the Supreme Being, that he will assist you in seeing your way clear to do everything in your power to help the helpless ones, the ones who hold a very special place in His eyes—the children.

This is what we are telling parents. You are the people that can help us now. So far, we have not received any help. You have to help us.

Senator **Kennedy**. Well, I just want to give you the assurance that I certainly will, as a member of this committee and also the Judiciary Committee, which has the jurisdiction on legislation.

I think it is important to realize that legislation in and of itself is not going to stop these horrendous situations which you describe. What it certainly can do is reduce the numbers of those occasions, and that is certainly something that we have an important responsibility to do.

And I will look forward to working with Senator Hawkins and even our colleagues over in the House to see what can be done. I want to thank you very much for your appearance here.

Senator **Hawkins**. Thank you.

Mrs. Bell, I would like to ask you a question because I admire your efforts—I read about you—to convey to the city of Atlanta your concern that there was a connection between the disappearances of young people in that city. I believe you were one of the first voices of concern there.

Could you discuss with us the events that took place in your struggle to convince others of the significance of the problem? Were you the lone voice there in Atlanta?

Mrs. **Bell**. Well, actually, I was not the lone voice. There were three parents of us working together.

Senator **Hawkins**. Three parents?

Mrs. **Bell**. Yes. Prior to Yusuf's disappearance, three other young men had disappeared and been killed. Media had not covered the stories of their disappearances in such a way that anyone thought anything about those. So, for a while, when Yusuf disappeared, people thought that he was the first.

On March 4, Angel Lanier disappeared. She was found raped, strangled, and tied to a tree a block from home on the 10th. Three hours before she was found, the police made their first contact with her school because they felt like she was a runaway; she was 12. The day after Angel was found, Jeffrey Mathis disappeared. This was in March 1980.

A CB'er, Mary Mapp, in our community introduced Mrs. Mathis, Mrs. Taylor—Angel Lanier's mother—and I to each other, because she just thought that since we were experiencing the same things, we should get to know each other. We sort of stayed together as a support group, sort of leaning on each other at that point.

Things moved along and in May we were passing literature in shopping centers and things like that to make people aware that Jeffrey was missing. About that time, Eric Middlebrooks disappeared, and we went to see his mother and she became a part of our organization, which at that point was not an organization but just a group of parents.

On June 9, Christopher Richardson disappeared. We went to see his parents and they became part of our group.

Senator HAWKINS. So, each time you heard that a child had disappeared, you would go visit his parents yourself?

Mrs. BELL. Right; that is basically what happened there.

Then we went, in late June, to the mayor's office, because at that point we had gathered data that showed us that we had children who were missing and murdered in ways that we felt looked like they were connected, and also were unusual for the city of Atlanta. What is normal for Atlanta is for one to know children, dead or missing, and the case unsolved.

What we had at that point were 10 children dead and missing and the cases unsolved. We talked to an aide at the mayor's office; the mayor was not available. He told us that he did not want to alarm the city.

We talked to the police department and they told us that they could see no connection between the cases. The connections that we saw at that point were that there were four 14-year-old boys missing or dead, five fifth grade boys, three children dead of strangulation. Three of the children were gifted. Two bodies were found at the same time and close to each other; the initial two bodies were found 50 yards apart on the first day.

We had a 9-year-old, two 10-year-olds, an 11-year-old, and a 12-year-old all disappear from near home in the daytime. But our police department could find no connection. When they would do nothing then, we passed out literature—one of them titled "Seven Ways to Keep Your Child Alive"—trying to make the city aware, and also trying to pick up information.

We set up a hotline and we manned it.

Senator HAWKINS. This was all a voluntary effort? Who paid for this?

Mrs. BELL. Nobody. It came out of child support payments, it came out of certain people's salaries, it came out of—you know, there was no money, and what little money we had, we used. It meant that you ate beans instead of meat because you had to pay the telephone bill for the hotline. It meant that you did what was necessary because that was the only way that it could be done. There was no money at that time. But children kept disappearing and children kept dying.

In August, a little boy from Cleveland, down visiting his grandmother in Atlanta, disappeared and the next day was found dead. In Cleveland, there was a Black Shriners convention. The Cleveland papers covered the story and when they did, the task force that we had pushed to have created in Atlanta that consisted of 5 people, even though we had asked for the GBI, the FBI, the Atlanta Police Department, and the surrounding counties—this task force jumped from 5 to 17 based on the fact that reports went out in Cleveland, and so media came in.

In Atlanta, we feel that the image of the city became more important than the reality of our children being killed. Things moved on; more children died. A day care center exploded in an area called Bowen Homes, which is a housing project. People took to the streets; national media came in.

The people in the community felt that racist whites had blown up the day care center—this was not a fact; that was their feeling—and that the same people that had blown up the day care center had killed the children, and they said so to national media. At that point, the task force jumped from 17 to 35; national news coverage was covering it then.

During that time, what the committee was doing was manning a hotline, planning a Halloween festival—the largest safe Halloween festival that was ever had in Atlanta. We pulled the business community in and they were basically for it, while we coordinated it.

We were running a private investigation with volunteer people because we had no money to pay for anything else. We were following up our own leads and giving them to the police department. We had a contingent of our volunteers going out on the searches that were set up by a city council person. We were holding public safety seminars; we were speaking not only in Atlanta, but nationally. We were getting the story out as much as we could while we had the media's eyes on us that something was going on not only in Atlanta, but nationally.

The committee no longer exists as the Committee To Stop Children's Murders; that is only made up of parents. We have since that time become a new organization called Stop the Children's Murders, Inc. We consist of parents, community people—a basic national, grassroots organization of people who are truly concerned about the plight of children nationally, especially missing children, but all children because we contend that our country has its priorities out of whack.

Senator HAWKINS. Thank you, Mrs. Bell.

Mrs. Patz, I have a question I wrote down earlier when you were talking. Do you feel the school system could help in these searches, or be of any service?

Mrs. PATZ. I think the school system in my particular case could have given us a 10-hour earlier start in searching for our son, and time is vital. It is a two-way street, however—a two-way obligation.

Parents must realize that they have to call the schools if their children are going to be absent. The task of calling back parents in a large school system if hundreds of students are absent on a morning is overwhelming. If each parent is conscientious about notifying the school of an anticipated absence, that number goes down.

What we have found is that senior citizens and parents who are not working are willing to provide, on a voluntary basis, the manpower to make these calls back to the parents if their children do not arrive at school. But the schools, as guardians of our children during the day, have got to realize that if a child does not show up and there has been no parental excuse, they have an obligation to make every possible attempt at contacting those parents and letting them know, and it should be mandatory. Currently, it is a voluntary system. It is voluntary; schools are not required to do so.

Senator HAWKINS. Mrs. Bell, do you have any thoughts you could share with others on the solutions to the problems that you faced as a lone voice in the beginning?

Mrs. BELL. I think one of the solutions would be to eliminate from our vocabulary the word "runaway."

Senator HAWKINS. Runaway?

Mrs. BELL. Yes, a missing child is a missing child. If my child breaks a window, then I am held responsible for that child's behavior. If my child is missing and I do not know where he is, then that is a problem that should be dealt with immediately.

We need to eliminate in most places a waiting period. There are some cities that have as much as a 72-hour waiting period for children. That 72-hour waiting period could mean the difference between whether a child lives or dies.

Another thing that we as a people probably need to stop doing is, when we cannot find answers, blaming victims, clouding the issues, getting away from the reality of what is happening.

In Atlanta, we ran into situations where children were accused of being homosexual prostitutes when, in fact, no evidence of homosexuality or prostitution was there, but that was the innuendo made in the paper. And the question was not whether they were homosexual or not, but that they had been murdered.

The implication was made that their street-wise, borderline criminal behavior had gotten them into trouble, when, in fact, only three of the under-16's in the Atlanta situation had even status-offense police records. Most of the kids were ordinary, average, everyday kids that you would see in Sunday school or that you would see in regular school; good attendance records. Some of them did real well in school, some of them did real poorly, but they were there. They were basically kids going about being ordinary, average kids.

But even if all of those things had been true, no one had the right to snatch them off the street and kill them, and this was what happened. We cloud the issue, we blame the victims, we accuse the parents, as a society, to keep from getting down to the fact that as individuals, we may care, but as a nation, we do not care.

Senator HAWKINS. I know from working with you, from the original legislation that I was interested in in June and from working with you as individual parents, I have learned that we have taken the word "runaway" out of the legislation; that is a judgment call to be made by somebody that we feel may not be educated well enough to make that call.

Do you feel that the change made in the legislation that allows parents access to the computer by giving you parents a form that you fill out so that you can have access to putting the information in the computer would be helpful, also?

Mrs. **BELL**. I think perhaps it would be helpful. I also believe that it has to be carefully monitored because while it would be a very helpful thing for parents who have lost children and things like that, we have to take into consideration that when you leave a door open like that, you leave it open for people who have other motives for doing things other than——

Senator **HAWKINS**. Well, only the police would put it in.

Mrs. **BELL**. If only the police can put it in, then I think it is an excellent idea.

Mrs. **PATZ**. It is necessary.

Mrs. **BELL**. It is absolutely necessary.

Senator **HAWKINS**. Mrs. Patz, I would like your comments on that because we felt after some research here that some officials who are hardened to the problem because they see it so many times a day—where it is a national tragedy to those of us who are not familiar with the details, some of those people become hardened to that and feel that because of your experiences, you should wait 48 hours, 72 hours, or whatever, while the officer made that judgment call.

You had felt that the faster you could get the information into the system, the better.

Mrs. **PATZ**. It is vital, and it is one of the major difficulties that we have faced in our family with our son's disappearance—getting the information out. In this day and age, if a child is taken and not immediately murdered, that child can be anywhere in a matter of hours, literally anywhere.

We are attempting to deal with the problem within the confines of this country. That child could have been long out of the country in a 24-hour waiting period, or 72 hours; it is ridiculous. And then if the search threatens the abductor, the child is in danger. He may have been alive for days, but then threatened by the search. Time is of the essence.

The search usually falls back on the parents; after initial intensive investigation turns up nothing, it falls back on the parents, who are not equipped to deal with it. In many cases, local law enforcement is not equipped to deal with it. They do not have the manpower; they do not have the training. They do not have the advice and resources available to them, and they are not knowledgeable about just what is available to them and how to utilize it; they are not knowledgeable.

How we educate law enforcement across the country, I do not know, but they do not have accurate knowledge as to what they can do and how to proceed. After requests for the information on our missing child to be put into the National Crime Information Center, we have come across police officers who do not even know what it is, let alone how to go about putting information in there.

In many instances, police officers have simply said to the families, "Yes, yes, yes, we did it," only to have the families check personally at some later date and find out that no such information had ever been put into any sort of central data bank. There is no hope of finding these children if there is no place to go to look for the information and to check unidentified bodies, et cetera.

There has got to be a central place. Otherwise, we are dealing with law enforcment on a municipality-by-municipality basis, and that is not the way it happens with missing persons. Unless they are murdered in a crime of passion, they do not remain in their own immediate neighborhood, within the jurisdiction of their local law enforcement agency.

There has got to be something more expansive—one place that all law enforcement knows they can go to and possibly gain identification and assist in identifying or in locating missing persons. If they, prior to that time, have utilized that system fully and have made the effort to train themselves as to what is necessary and gotten that data into the system, it can be extremely beneficial to them and to us only if it is used.

Senator **HAWKINS**. Mr. Walsh, do you have any comments?

Mr. **WALSH**. Well, we were told not to come here without some statistics. Statistics are difficult to accumulate, but I have addressed it in three different areas. I have researched the founding of the FBI. I have statistics relating to missing children and the problem of unidentified bodies. It would probably take me about 5 minutes to explain my research, if that would be all right with you.

After having determined that although we would never be able to find answers for Adam's death, in our minds we were determined that he would not die in vain. We realized that very few families in the United States could get the help financially, as well as emotionally, that we did. We came to the realization that many of my business and close friends pooled all their efforts in the belief that collectively we could get Adam back.

Since then, we have heard from hundreds of people with missing children, as well as people with murdered children, and realize that the vast majority of these people did not receive the support financially or emotionally or the exposure that we did.

After meeting with some of these mothers and with the horror of Adam's death in the back of our minds, we can never forget the looks on their faces. In most cases, this is a hopeless and a lost cause.

It is certainly evident that the priorities of this country are in some disorder. A country that can launch a Space Shuttle that can return to the Earth and take off again, a country that can allocate millions of dollars to save a small fish, the snail darter, to the Tennessee Valley River Authority, threatened with extinction, but does not have a centralized reporting system or a nationwide search system for missing children or unidentified bodies certainly needs to reaffirm the very principles that this country was founded on; namely, personal freedoms.

In order not to appear to the general public as some grief-stricken, deranged parents, we were determined to get what facts were available in the best possible order and present them to you people today. Although our hearts are broken, we were bound and determined that our story would be heard.

After contacting and speaking with many of the 20-or-so individual missing children agencies throughout the country, it appears that statistics indicate that there are over 150,000 individual children missing a year. Approximately 100,000 of these are "runaways"—we hate to use the term—and children snatched by ex-parents. The unbelievable and unaccounted for figure of 50,000 children disappear annually and are abducted for reasons of foul play.

One only has to look at some of the past incidents, such as the 22 victims in Houston, the 44 victims of the freeway killer in Los Angeles, the 33 victims buried in the home of John Wayne Gacy, as well as the much-publicized Atlanta slayings.

While in seclusion in Ithaca, N.Y., Cornell University made available to us their 11 libraries and microfilm laboratory, and we researched, first, this problem by means of newspaper, magazine, and statistical reports. Most surprising is that the uniform crime report produced annually by the FBI has no official statistics on kidnaping, child abuse, homosexual rape, or missing children.

After researching the Federal kidnaping statute, it appears that the FBI has arbitrarily decided to interpret the statute in their own way. A quote from the statute: "An FBI investigation is authorized when there is information or an allegation that a person has been unlawfully abducted and held for ransom or otherwise."

Neely Shane Smith was abducted in North Carolina; a ransom of $15,000. The FBI refused to enter the case. The little 5-year-old girl was found strangled in the next State. Still, the FBI has not entered the case, right in accordance with the Federal kidnaping statute. Evidently they must be planning another Abscam; I do not know. It seems to be not apropos at this time.

We also found proof in past magazine articles—and this can be substantiated—that the FBI entered into the case of Fran Freluche, a $500,000 horse that disappeared from the Claybourne Farms in Paris, Ky. According to FBI spokesman Bill Cheek in Louisville, "We are investigating and assuming we have jurisdiction because of the value of the horse. If we never prove there was interstate travel, well, then, of course, it is a local matter." It seems extremely ludicrous that the FBI would enter a case of a $500,000 horse where no ransom note was ever received or proof of it crossing the State line. I find it very hard to put a price on a child.

According to the New York Times of July 30, 1933, headlines: "J. Edgar Hoover Heads New Crime Bureau; A Division Created by President Roosevelt Will War on Kidnapers." Again, the New York Times, November 4, 1934: "The Lindbergh Law and the Activity of Federal Agents Threaten to Kill Kidnaping." Front page, Saturday, July 30, 1933, New York Times: "Federal Warfare Against Kidnaping Widens Its Range; Roosevelt Plans New Legislation; National Police Force is Talked as Public Opinion Backs Crusade Against Organized Crime and Kidnaping."

It is obvious from our research that one of the main objectives of the formation of the FBI was certainly to fight crime on a Federal level, yes. But according to all articles and research, it was primarily created to assist in the war on kidnaping, also.

It appears that during the time since 1933 and 1934 when the FBI and J. Edgar Hoover declared war on kidnaping because of the notoriety on the Lindbergh case, the public opinion has not been strong enough to force the FBI back into what it was originally intended and formed to do.

Granted, some police agencies are excellent and well equipped to look for missing and abducted children in their areas. Once a child is taken from the jurisdiction of the local police force, virtually no one looks for him. If he is abducted in a rural community that is served by sheriffs, possibly one sheriff may take the report; then the parents go home and wait and wait and wait. This scenario is repeated continually, daily throughout the United States.

This is not a local problem; this is not a regional problem; this is a national problem. Recent headlines and newsstories have been full of the effect of governmental budget cuts. There are Federal statistics that tell us exactly how many families these budget cuts will affect. There is no Federal agency or State agency today that can tell us exactly how many families are affected by missing children.

Frankly, knowing the grief my wife and I feel, I am a bit afraid of the collective grief that the provisions of the Missing Children's Act will expose. Certainly, the facts which accumulate will appall some, embarrass others, and sadden us all. I guarantee that when this bill is passed and the facts concerning missing children are finally accumulated, all Americans will be shocked.

As always, we will search for the source of blame, but that blame increases each day that this bill is not passed.

After personally interviewing Dr. Ronald Wright—a doctor, a lawyer, an expert witness, a member of the American Academy of Forensic Scientists, and the chief medical examiner of Broward County—we were again appalled to learn of the lack of a centralized system for identifying bodies.

Dr. Wright has succeeded in linking up Florida's 22 medical examiners' offices with a computer in Colorado and four other States, only. Colorado started their computer initially in helping to identify thousands in a past flood. Wright has been actively lobbying in hopes that this problem of unidentified bodies can be solved by linking up the 1,500 medical examiners' offices throughout the United States.

Right now in Broward County, in just one area in the United States, there are seven bodies that Dr. Wright and his staff say they are further stymied in their effort to identify due to the time it takes to have fingerprints matched with those held by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI lab is terribly understaffed, and with their overwhelming requests for prints, it takes about 4 months to have a request filled.

It has been so bad that the FBI no longer does fingerprinting for people who apply for business reasons. Therefore, in many cases if the unidentified person is not a criminal whose fingerprints are logged with the FBI, the chances of identifying the person are slim to none.

According to a female member of Wright's staff: "You have got to realize that there are people out there who want to know what happened to their loved ones. That is why we work so hard to come through. These are not just bodies; these are people."

It is evident that people are held in morgues throughout the United States, buried at a cost to their local counties in a John Doe or unmarked grave, and no one ever knows that their dear relative or son or daughter that they have been looking for endlessly is there. It is almost conceivable, in this great country with its resources, that this problem exists and continues to exist.

After a long, continuing discussion with Wright, he determined that there would be approximately 10,000 unidentified bodies a year throughout the country. The cost of setting up a computer to keep this information so that there would be a ready exchange by all authorities—local, State, and Federal—is so small that it is actually ludicrous.

In light of President Reagan's call for budget cuts in every area, the problem of a budget supporting a centralized reporting system for missing children and a centralized system for storing information on dead bodies must be addressed. We have to approach this from a business standpoint.

In Mr. Reagan's recent speech in New Orleans on the epidemic of crime in the United States he said, "We will seek closer cooperation between Federal, State, and local officials on law enforcement and prison problems."

What we are proposing in the way of a centralized computer system for missing children, and also a computer system for the identification of bodies in the Missing Children's Act, is just what Mr. Reagan is talking about. But since he is such an economy-minded President, let us address the facts from a budgetary standpoint.

If there are 50,000 children a year that are missing in the United States, as a conservative figure, and they meet the requirements of the Missing Children's Act that they have attained the age of 17 years old, do not have a previous history of running away based on the available evidence, are not the victim of abduction by a parent, and have been missing for at least 24 hours—and we are rewording some of those stipulations, Ms. Hawkins, realizing that those are inadequate to address this problem; this is the old bill—this number could be easily stored in a computer that could be linked up with police agencies throughout the United States. The 10,000-or-so missing bodies and information concerning them would put no burden on this particular computer whatsoever.

The NCIC, the famous national crime information computer, does not cross-reference input as it relates to dead bodies.

Let us address the real problem. According to the Bereaved Parents, an organization with charters throughout the United States of parents with deceased or murdered children, 90 percent of the marriages fail as a result of the trauma of a death of a child. Many of the people in this bracket, as well as members of the 100,000 children snatched by ex-parents and runaways, are also devastated financially.

From our own personal experiences, this devastated us financially. It cost every bit of our savings we had as well as whatever money we could borrow to search for Adam. The amount of time lost at work, the need for emotional counseling, the lost tax dollars, the emotional wrecks of surviving parents that are cast on the welfare system of our society are enormous. If you could calculate these incalculable figures, they would far outweigh the cost of a centralized reporting system for missing bodies and missing children.

Looking at it from a businessman's standpoint, the bottom line here is that nothing is being done in the way of storage and classification of information, but yet the reality of devastated emotional and financial survivors is a burden on the economy of this country.

Included in this statement you will see a letter from Child Find, a nonprofit organization in New York. As a result of our one appearance on national television with David Hartman, as he displayed pictures of missing children, three children have been located, one of them a little boy who had been missing since 1976. If this could be done by one 7-minute interview on network, it is incalculable to think what vast progress the Federal Government could do to assist this program.

Senator HAWKINS. We want to thank each of you so much for coming today and giving us insight into a national problem. We cannot thank you enough. We would like you to stay, if you can, for the second panel, which consists of successful police officers from across the country and others who have been involved in the successful finding of missing children.

We would like this to be also in the record for our colleagues who are going to be so concerned with solving these problems.

We appreciate your attendance today.

Mr. WALSH. We thank you because we would not be here if it were not for you.

Senator HAWKINS. For our second panel today, we are going to welcome three individuals who have dedicated themselves to the successful solution of the problem of missing children in this country.

We will take a brief standup while we locate Capt. Paul Michna of the juvenile division of the Houston Police Force; Ms. Kristin Cole Brown, the information director for Child Find; and Sgt. Dick Ruffino of the missing persons bureau of the Bergen County Sheriff's Department in Hackensack, N.J.

We welcome you here today. I would like to start with you, Captain Michna. I know that Houston had its tragedy with missing children in 1973, and we understand that your department's approach to this problem has been highly successful.

Could you give us some examples of your techniques that are employed in locating missing children in Houston?

STATEMENT OF PAUL MICHNA, CAPTAIN, JUVENILE DIVISION, SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU, HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, HOUSTON, TEX.; KRISTIN COLE BROWN, INFORMATION DIRECTOR, CHILD FIND, NEW PALTZ, N.Y.; AND RICHARD RUFFINO, DETECTIVE SERGEANT, BERGEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, HACKENSACK, N.J.

Captain MICHNA. Thank you, Madam Chairman, for inviting the Houston Police Department to be here today.

As we should, we in Houston learned by our mistakes. In 1973 when the mass murders happened, there was no organized runaway squad in the juvenile division. Today, the juvenile division of the Houston Police Department consists of 106 police officers and supervisors.

Senator HAWKINS. We would ask that there be quiet in the room, please, so that we can hear Captain Michna's testimony.

Captain MICHNA. The juvenile division itself consists of 106 police officers and supervisors. The squad that handles adult missing persons, runaways and missing children consists of nine police officers and one sergeant. They all work the day shift, with Saturdays and Sundays off, but the juvenile division itself operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and they are supplemented on the evening shift, the night shift, and on the weekends by officers assigned to the juvenile division.

The runaway squad handles approximately 35 percent of all the 17,000 cases that the juvenile division handles annually. The juvenile division is responsible for all crimes committed against juveniles and by juveniles, and a juvenile is defined in the State of Texas as anyone under the age of 16.

For reasons of definition, I guess, we would classify anyone 9 and under as a missing child; anyone from 10 to 16 as a runaway; and as an adult missing person, anyone over the age of 17.

One of the methods that we would use to find these people is that we have no waiting period. When someone calls us and makes a runaway report or a missing child report or an adult missing person report, we will take the report immediately. When I assumed command of the juvenile division in May of 1980, one of the first things I did was visit the runaway squad to see how they were operating, and we called six cities throughout the United States similar in geographical makeup and size to Houston to learn how they handled their missing adults and children and got some ideas from them. Then we devised our own.

One of the things we do now is we use pin maps to alert us to possibly an area in town where children are missing. We use a runaway squad with a common supervisor who will read all the reports, so that that supervisor can look for similarities. The officers that are assigned to the runaway squad work the same area of town so they become familiar with the people in that area of town.

We distribute flyers to the area patrol cars in the event of runaways or missing children. And I think probably the most significant thing that we did, if I may explain it, is when a report is received on a runaway, 10 through 16, that report is assigned to a police officer, who will investigate the case. When they have exhausted all leads and all clues, then they give that report back to their sergeant saying that they have done everything that they can.

The sergeant will read the report and make sure that all has been done, and then at the same time that report is handed to another police officer who is never allowed to put that report down again. That officer makes contact with the family again and lets them know that he is responsible for that child and that any contact or any information they have, they should contact him. That officer is never allowed to put that report down.

In the juvenile division, we have a sex exploitation unit that handles pornography, prostitution, and children that are being sexually abused. They work hand-in-hand with our runaway squad and use the information supplied by runaways as to pornography or prostitution in Houston. It will alert us to people that possibly may be using runaways in pornography or prostitution, and specifically missing children. Let me talk about them for just a minute; they are 9 and under.

When someone calls in a missing child report to us, immediately a patrol car in that area is dispatched to the home. A juvenile officer is also sent. When they arrive at the scene, they gather more information, talk to the parents, talk to the witnesses, and then more officers are called in—as many officers as it takes to look for that child.

I can remember calling people in on their off days, overtime, using the narcotics division, using the sex exploitation unit—anyone that was free and accessible at that time, to look for these missing children.

In 1980, using 1980 statistics for the whole year, we in the juvenile division took 6,438 runaway reports. Of those, 360 were classified as missing children, nine and under. All of the missing children were found within just a matter of hours, with the exception of one 5-year-old girl who was found 2 hours after she was reported missing. She was found by one of the juvenile officers in an apartment swimming pool; she had accidentally drowned. All the other children were found safe, either next door; one was found in the house, hiding in the closet. They were with some friends, or whatever.

Of the 6,438 runaways that we took, all but 9 have been located, and of those 9, all of them have called home or they have been seen by family. They have either been seen by someone in the neighborhood or they have called home to tell their parents that they are OK, but they just choose not to return home at this time, for a 99.9986 clearance rate in Houston.

I think that the officers assigned to the runaway squad and the adult missing persons squad are the key to a successful runaway squad. They have got to be there because they want to be there. There are other assignments in the juvenile division or the police department that are more attractive, but I have been there since May of 1980 and we have not had any turnover in that squad, except for the sergeant. We have added two additional people to that squad, and those people work there because they want to be there. I think that accounts for the successful clearance rate that we have.

Senator HAWKINS. I know that the police officer on the street is sometimes confronted by parents who really do not properly care for their children and who do not appear to be very interested in their safe return. Does this not make your effort particularly difficult?

Captain MICHNA. Yes, it does. I think that is one of the things that we really have to guard against. Because of the volume of reports that are received by the police officers from parents, a lot of times those reports are without validity. The parents know that their child, in effect, is not missing or is not a runaway, but they make the report for some other reason.

In Texas, we have a mandatory school attendance until age 16. When the school will call the parent and want to know why a 14-year-old child is not in school, they know that they can be filed on criminally for not making that child attend school. They will call and make a runaway report with us; that lets the parents off the hook because there is an outstanding runaway report on the child, so that now they are off the hook with the school.

We have parents that will call us and will tell us, "I want to report my 14- or 15-year-old daughter or son as a runaway." By the way, half of the runaway reports that we take—it is pretty well even, female and male. But some of the parents will call and say, "When you find my 15-year-old girl, do not bring her back to me. She has been nothing but a problem to me; do not bring her home. Take her to her grandmother. My mother raised me and she did a good job, but apparently I am not a good parent. You take her to my mother when you find her."

Well, that happens. We will find the runaway or the missing child and take them to the grandparents. Then the grandparents will call in a runaway report, and after two or three times, then the grandparents will say, "When you find the child, do not bring her back to me. I raised my children; now it is my children's turn to be responsible parents. Do not bring them back to me." And there you have a 14- or 15-year-old child and the parents are saying, "Do not bring them back to me," and the grandparents are saying, "Do not bring them back to me." But they want us to go out and find that runaway. What choice do we have when we find them? Who do we take them to?

Senator HAWKINS. Where do you take them?

Captain MICHNA. Well, a lot of times in those instances, child welfare steps in. I can remember just about 3 weeks ago, two 57-year-old parents called. They had made a runaway report on their 15-year-old girl. They had adopted this girl at birth and they were 57 years old now, and in most people's time in life, their children are raised and gone and they can relax a little bit.

But here was this 15-year-old girl that was apparently causing them a lot of problems, and they just did not want her back. And I told them that they could not abdicate their rights as parents; that they had adopted her, she was their child, and people were not going to step in and raise her for them.

Through a friend, we were able to mediate the problem there, and the girl is back with her parents now. Another example was a 60-year-old woman who had a 14-year-old daughter who ran away.

She got my name and called me personally and said that she wanted her 14-year-old daughter found.

Well, I talked to the officer that was working the case and he said, "I know where the girl is and I will have her back this afternoon." Well, sure enough, at 2 that afternoon, the girl was back home with her mother. The mother called me and said, "My girl is back home now; she is here. Thank you for responding." At 4, she called me back and said the girl had run away again and that I was personally responsible for any action that girl took while she was gone.

Why she assumed that I was going to be personally responsible for the girl, I do not know, but that was the attitude of the 60-year-old woman; that I was going to be personally responsible for her and that she had washed her hands of her 14-year-old girl.

There are instances where a runaway or an adult missing person report is received—I keep alluding to "adult missing persons" even though I know that is not the subject of the hearing, but I think sometimes it is reflective of some of the attitudes of parents of children.

They will report a 70-year-old father or mother as missing who is senile, and when we get there, the entire family, brothers, sisters, cousins, are all gathered at the house doing nothing but sitting there. And they want the police department to coordinate the search and to do all the searching when, in fact, all they are doing is sitting there manning the phones, as it were—maybe as many as 10 or 12 people.

You have to guard against the officers becoming complacent when they see things like this and when they take such a volume of reports—over 6,400 reports a year. The officers have to guard against becoming complacent, when they take a missing child report or a runaway report, as this being just another child who will turn up in another day or two and why be concerned about?

I have created policies in the Houston Police Department, juvenile division, concerning runaways and missing children. I cannot afford to alter from those policies or back down. You have got to stay firm with your policies and let those officers know that even though you take 6,400 reports a year, when that parent calls you, that is their one child and that is maybe their one contact with the police department that they will have in their entire life, and to them it is serious.

I will have to say that I am proud of the police officers assigned to the runaway squad because I believe that is the attitude held by them. If I may make an example, in January of this year there was a 5-year-old girl that was reported missing to us on a Thursday afternoon. We responded immediately with our complement of police officers to search the area. There were volunteers from the community that came in with search dogs. We used our helicopter division; we used our diving team of the police department to search a nearby bayou.

The radio stations and the TV stations picked up on the story and published the account, showing her picture on TV. We worked throughout the night. The next afternoon at about 5, I had just talked to a group of officers, giving them another assignment. I looked and saw a swimming pool in a neighbor's yard, and I asked, "Has anyone searched that swimming pool?" I was told by about three people, yes, the swimming pool had been searched.

I walked over to the house; I took another juvenile officer with me. I talked to the owner of the house and asked if the swimming pool had been searched. He said, yes, it had; that he had done it himself and that some of the other neighbors had done it.

I told the police officer with me, "We are going to search it." The swimming pool was murky; the water had probably been in there for years—stagnant water with limbs, leaves and debris floating on top. The juvenile officer took the pole and began to drag the bottom of the pool. He was told by several of the neighbors, "We have already done that yesterday. I did it; Mr. Harris did it. You are wasting your time." He said, "I did not do it and I did not see anybody else do it, and I am going to do it."

Well, within a matter of 30 minutes, he found the little girl at the bottom of the swimming pool. That is the attitude that we have got to have from our police officers: "I did not see it personally; I did not do it personally, and I am going to do it. I am going to find that little girl."

Senator **Hawkins**. Thank you, Captain. I think you are an outstanding example of what we are looking for in your positive answers to this problem.

Do you believe that the missing children search is best handled by local police departments, or would it be more properly handled by the FBI, or is it a combination of both? Give me your feelings on that.

Captain **Michna**. Speaking just for the Houston Police Department, I think that the Houston Police Department is a good example of a local police department and I think we are best able to handle the problem of runaways or missing children in our area. Some of the reasons are that we are a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week service; we are there.

We have 106 police officers, and if need be, we have 3,100 police officers on the Houston police force that are available to aid in the search. We know the community. Most of us were born in Houston or raised in Houston; we know the community. So, when someone calls us and says, "My 6-year-old daughter is missing in the vicinity of Oak Forest, 34th and T. C. Jester area," we can visualize that area in our minds. We know the hazards that are there; we know the problems that are there. We can coordinate searches.

We are friends with the patrol officers in that area who ride the uniformed cars. They will cooperate with us because we are Houston police officers, and this one Houston police officer asking another Houston police officer for help, and they respond.

We have the equipment; we have diving teams and helicopters. We have people in the community who will offer their services to us. CBer's have been a valuable aid in the past searches. But local police cannot do it alone, and we do not hesitate to call on other agencies, including the FBI, when we have an abduction or a missing child report. We will use whatever methods are necessary to find that person.

But speaking only for the Houston Police Department, I think that local police are best suited to handle this problem.

Senator **Hawkins**. How do you ascertain the dead body identification today?

Captain **Michna**. Repeat that, please.

Senator **Hawkins**. How do you ascertain dead body identification today? Do you get a printed sheet that tells you how many bodies were found in the State?

Captain **Michna**. Yes. Of course, we receive flyers from all over the country, and then we work very closely with our own medical examiner, who has a staff. Right now in Houston, we have 12 unidentified bodies in our own morgue, and we have checked those against the missing persons that we have. We have no dead children in our morgue.

But we cooperate with other agencies throughout the country. Our people who work back there know people in other cities and can pick up the phone and help. But on a lot of these adult missing persons, if we do not have a flyer or their fingerprints are not on record with the FBI, a lot of times they are just left there. That is why I say we have 12 bodies that are unidentified.

One thing that we did do earlier this year was we hired an artist to go to the morgue and make a composite of each of the bodies that were in the morgue at the time. The composite was colored in for clarity. We put each one in the paper on a daily basis and told the story about how they were found, where they were found, what kind of clothes they were found in. And through that, we were able to identify two of the bodies. People in the neighborhood came forward and said that they knew that person and we were able to identify them that way. We are going to have to assume that the rest of them are from out of town.

Senator **Hawkins**. Would it not be helpful to have a national registry of dead bodies so you could fill out those forms that we are looking at that, say, Colorado uses right now, and then have a national repository for that?

Captain **Michna**. Yes; very helpful.

[The prepared statement of Captain Michna follows:]

TESTIMONY OF
CAPTAIN PAUL MICHNA

The state of Texas defines a Juvenile as anyone under the age of 17. A further definition says that children under the age of 10 are not responsible for their actions. The Juvenile Division of the Houston Police Department uses this classification as the basis for their Runaway Reports. The Juvenile Division is responsible for Missing Children (9 and under), Runaways (10 - 16), Adult Missing Persons (anyone 17 and older).

These reports account for about 35% of all the cases handled by the Juvenile Division. After the "Mass Murders" in 1973 in Houston, the Runaway Squad was formed. This provided better coordination and placed responsiblity. We have improved on the system and today I feel that we are able to handle the runaway problem and be alert for danger signals. Some of the improvements include:

1. A runaway squad consisting of 9 officers and 1 sergeant who all work the day shift together thus enabling them to discuss their cases and look for similarities.
2. Pin Maps for runaways that have not been located.
3. A runaway report is never allowed to be placed in the In-active file. When the original officer who was assigned the case has exhausted all clues, that officer is allowed to give the report to his Sergeant. The sergeant then gives the report to another officer whose job is to follow-up on these type of reports and is never allowed to turn the report in until the runaway has been located.

4. The officers are assigned to work a particular area of town on a permanent basis.
5. Flyers distributed to the Patrol officers in the area.

In 1980, we received and investigated 6,438 Runaway Reports, of this number approximately 300 were Missing Children. Our clearance rate for 1980 was 99.9986%. All of the Missing Children were found safe with the exception of one 4 year old girl who accidently drowned in a swimming pool. Of the 9 runaways still missing for 1980, all have been seen or have called home to say that they are alright but do not wish to come home.

Missing children are considered top priority in the Juvenile Division. Our policy for dealing with them specifically states the steps to be used. When a Missing Child Report is received a Patrol unit is sent and a Juvenile officer also goes to the scene. More information is obtained and a thorough search is made of the immediate area. If this search is futile more Juvenile officers are called for and the search is expanded. Specialized units such as helicopters, diving teams or dogs are called for if needed. The media is used asking the citizens for help. Depending on the race of the child, we ask the spanish - speaking or the predominantly black radio stations for assistance. Policy says that someone will remain on the scene coordinating the search and does not state at what point to leave the scene. Only the circumstances will provide that information. As in 1980, thus far this year all the missing children have been located except one who was the victim of an accidental drowning. In the event a missing child or runaway is murdered, the Homicide Division will handle the investigation. This is a result of an agreement reached between the two Divisions. Murder investigations have become more sophisticated and exact, it was felt that the Homicide Division had the expertise since they investigate so many more murders than do the Juvenile Division.

We encounter some problems investigating the Missing Children/ Runaway Reports. Some of the children who fall into the category of a Missing Child are in fact runaways. We have several kids that are regularly reported missing when in fact they are only runaways and return home in a few hours. Most of the missing children are found within an hour of the time the report is received. They are with a friend or even in their own home hiding from their parents.

Separated parents who snatch their children cause us problems. Questions to the parent about their marital status is often one of the first questions asked by the officers. A check with Child Welfare is a routine step.

I feel as do the officers assigned to the Juvenile Division that the local Police are the best suited agency to handle Runaways/Missing Children. We are familiar with the city and have access to the Patrol officers in the area. These ten - tacles in the community are often the method used to locate these children.

What is needed is an agency to deal with runaways after they are located to learn why they ran away. Runaways offer a barometer The Juvenile Division has a Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program that goes into the schools and addresses 7th graders. Four topics are discussed including Runaways. Feedback from the students make us feel that the program is having a positive effect. We also have a Child Welfare officer assigned to the Juvenile Division and have asked for 3 more. The welfare workers are used to direct the kids out of the Juvenile System and provide for the child if he is being neglected.

Prevention is the key to the runaway problem being experienced across the nation. We must take a proactive stance rather than a reactive stance with Juveniles and prevent them from ever entering the Juvenile System.

Senator HAWKINS. Thank you.

Ms. Brown, you are quite an interesting person. I enjoyed visiting with you prior to the hearing. Can you describe the nature of your organization, which is called Child Find, and the kind of services that it provides?

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

Child Find was created in August 1980 by Gloria Yerkovich, whose daughter, Joanna, has been missing since December 20, 1974. Child Find is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization completely dependent upon private contributions and searching parent's registration fees for funding. For about 2½ years, Ms. Yerkovich patiently waited for her local, State, county, and Federal law enforcement agencies to come to her daughter's aid, and realized that her daughter had fallen into a black hole of such staggering dimensions that it would be virtually impossible to find her.

It is not a crime to disappear in this country. This country guarantees in our Constitution the right to remain an anonymous, private citizen. But what happens if you disappear with somebody else's child? You are still impossible to find.

Ms. Yerkovich was very much inspired by the case in California, the Stainer case, of a young man who had been abducted at the age of 7. He was kept in seclusion by a man who molested him for the entire 7 years that they were living together.

The man had told the young boy that he had been sent by the boy's parents to look after him, and children trust adults. It was only when this man kidnapped a second child and began abusing him that the older child realized this was not a tolerable situation. He was living in a remote area. He finally found his way to authorities, and both children are back home with their parents now.

I think that what inspired Ms. Yerkovich here is that everybody has overlooked the fact that children are people with hearts and with brains. They remember their parents; they want to get home. There is no way for them to get home. What we have done is establish a two-way communications system. We are a central point of contact for searching parents and their missing children.

We reach out to missing children in two ways. First of all, our poster that you see up there we would like to have hung in every school, McDonald's, and any institution with access to children across the country. We have a tear-off sheet which will give our toll-free number so that children can contact us.

Second, we have televised and recorded public service announcements on both radio and television, in which a young girl—she is 13 and our youngest consultant—speaks directly to the children and says, "If you think for any reason that there is a parent looking for you, call us and we will help you try to find the parent."

We can always tell when the PSA has been aired because the phones ring off the hook for an hour and a half afterwards. The children are out there; they know they have been abducted; they know something is wrong. But there has been nowhere for them to go. They assume they are the only children it has ever happened to and that they simply have to endure. Those are the two ways we reach out to the children.

For parents who call to register missing children, we do a number of things. We have just published this booklet, "In Search of Our Children-Our Parents." At this point, we only have 150 photographs of missing children in here. Again, we would like to get this booklet into the hands of every public school administrator, private school administrator, police station, hospital emergency room, and other institutions with access to children.

The public can help us identify these children and get them home where they belong. This is also the place to plead with parents to update the photographs of the children. These photographs are often all they have to go on, and they are out of focus, they are a year or two old. At least twice a year, get a good portrait made of your child because you may need it one day.

Also, for searching parents we have learned the hard way who is who in the private detective business. There are a lot of people out there who will charge tens of thousands of dollars of desperate, grief-stricken parents. It happened to our director. She wrote a check for $10,000. She received a phone call and a letter telling her that her retainer fee had been used up; that is it.

We have learned where to go. There are people out there who can do the job and who can locate your children. If that is the route you want to go, we can put you in touch with them. This, however, is completely voluntary, but it is one of the services we provide to searching parents.

One of our primary aids is the media. We have been on national television; we have been in national magazines, such as People Magazine, with photographs of missing children. A schoolteacher picks up a photograph; there is a child in her classroom who is coming into class with bruises, is socially withdrawn, and who is crying out for help, and here is the answer. It is accomplished in a matter of hours.

The school employee calls us; we call the parents. The parent is on the way. That is how it is accomplished.

I think that the biggest obstacle we have found so far is that not enough parents know that we are here because their first thought is, "this is the Government's job." When they find that there is nothing there, they despair of any help at all. So, it becomes a private, unending nightmare with no hope at all.

It is important that every group, and I am including the Federal Government in this, learns to work with each other. No single agency can begin to singlehandedly solve this problem. It is too vast, it is too well organized, and it is too spontaneous. There is every possible reason for a child to be stolen, and we've got to be able to account for every one of them.

At this point, we have about a 35-percent rate of success in finding stolen children.

Senator HAWKINS. Thirty-five percent?

Ms. BROWN. Thirty-five percent. The best statistics that we can gather reveal that even if you have police agencies across the country with, say, a 95-percent success rate, when you add up the 5 percent of children who cannot be accounted for at the end of a reasonable search period from every county in this country, you are talking about thousands and thousands of children. Also, police do not record children who were first reported as missing, and later discovered as rape or homicide victims as missing children. They are catalogued according to their final classification. This further obscures obtaining an accurate account of how many missing children are reported in a given area each year.

The success rate for recovering those—the 3 or 4 percent per county who cannot be found—is about 10 percent, eventually. You will find 10 percent of them alive and you will find 10 percent of them dead. We have found 35 percent of our children; the majority we found alive.

Mr. Walsh previously mentioned Neely Smith. The reason her investigation was not pursued by the FBI was because her parents had recently divorced. Her father was under suspicion for the abduction. He passed a lie detector test; he was frantically worried about his daughter. However, the police maintained that he had the child somewhere with family. And it was not until 6 weeks later when her body was found that a serious investigation was inaugurated.

So, that is basically what Child Find has been created to fill in. We are not going to send officers out into the field looking for children. We are going to provide an unchanging point of contact for the children and their parents. Children have had their names changed; they do not know their area codes. All they know is that they hope there is a parent somewhere looking for them.

Senator HAWKINS. How much success have you had in obtaining the cooperation of the media in publishing the photographs of these children? You said People Magazine had been helpful, and some television.

Ms. BROWN. Originally, very little, for the simple reason that every time we went to the media we were told very sympathetically, "Give us an angle, because missing children are not news anymore. There are just too many of them." An angle means a death or a body. It was very difficult to come up with something that appealed as a news story; numbers were not enough. And, again, without a national clearinghouse, we simply did not have numbers or statistics.

We are the only national clearinghouse that I know of with statistics on missing children, and we are certainly not a large enough organization to compile them effectively.

Senator **Hawkins**. Well, I commend you on your efforts, and also your success rate. How have you been able to register searching children in your program?

Ms. **Brown**. When we receive a phone call from a missing child, we have a form. We begin asking questions, with the most important information first. Once we determine whether or not the people that the child is living with know about the phone call, we can proceed one way.

There are simply children who call because they have questions about adoption; they are not sure if they have been adopted or abducted. In those cases, if they have the parents' knowledge and consent to begin searching, we simply hold on to their information, look through our register of searching parents, and hope for a match. It has not happened yet.

If the NCIC computer did what it was supposed to do, we could have an answer for that child in minutes. At this point, we do not hve a computer; we do it by hand. We have not yet been able to tell a child, "This information that you have given us matches up with this information from another parent."

However, we have helped children find their parents in such simple ways that it is hard to imagine. We recently received a phone call from a young girl; she was 13. She had seen our public service announcement. She had been abducted by one parent and knew that there was a father living somewhere. The mother who had abducted her had died; she was now living in a foster home. She wanted very much to find her natural father.

She knew the father's name and she knew the hometown. Before we did anything else, we said, "Why do you not call information and just see what you find?" She said, "Well, that is too simple; he will never be there." We said, "Try that first and call us back on our toll-free line in 10 minutes." She did, and she said, "I found him."

That is all it takes. These children have never been given a place to turn to. They think they are the only children in a vacuum out there looking for their parents. If it is as simple as that, we are in very good shape. Clearly, it is not always that simple.

We have children who have to sneak over to friends' houses or who have to find phone booths, who are in very abusive situations. And it is those children that worry us and frighten us and cause us to feel despair, because we know there is a parent out there looking somewhere for this child and we cannot match them up.

Senator **Hawkins**. I am afraid that most of us assume that there is little actual physical risk to a child who is the victim of a parental snatch. Most of us think that is one good parent arguing with another good parent over the custody of this child.

Ms. **Brown**. Yes.

Senator **Hawkins**. Do you have any feeling about that?

Ms. **Brown**. Yes. I would say that two-thirds of the children who are registered as missing across this country are victims of parental snatchings, and there is a terrible, dangerous stigma and myth associated with this. It is a crime; it is against the law for a parent without legal custody to kidnap a child, though the cusodial parents are specifically excluded under the Lindberg Act from securing FBI assistance in finding their children.

However, what we are talking about in 100,000 parental abductions a year is, often, a divorce whose grounds lie in the fact that you have an abusive parent. You may have an incestuous parent; you may have a parent who has sexually abused every child in the family. And it is only when infants begin being abused that older children will confess or will confide in the other parent.

They will endure it themselves, but when a younger sibling is abused this way, they finally break down, always with apologies, always saying, "I know it was my fault; I know I am bad. You can keep doing it to me if you want to hurt me, but please leave my baby brother or sister alone."

A divorce follows; visitation privileges are granted to the abusive parent. and not long after, you have a missing child. Now, you have a parent with a history of either sexual abuse or physical violence, with possibly felony or misdemeanor warrants out on him, who is the sole support of this child. If you have a parent who is physically violent, obviously he does not have a good handle on his emotions. The frustration he is going to find out there, unable to get a job, unable to interact normally with other members of whatever community he finds, is going to begin to manifest itself in violence against his abducted children.

It happens to mothers, too; more and more, this is a crime that exercises no sexual preference. Many of the parents registered with us are fathers looking for their children. We have got to reexamine the problem of domestic violence in terms of the impact it is having on children.

Senator **Hawkins**. Thank you so much. We appreciate your participating today and helping us reach a solution.

Ms. **Brown**. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Brown follows:]

TESTIMONY OF KRISTIN COLE BROWN

Information Director of Child Find

Madam Chairman:

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce to you and to the members of this Sub-Committee some information concerning the problem of missing children.

My name is Kristin Cole Brown. I am Information Director of Child Find, a private, not-for-profit organization founded to help provide a central point of contact for missing children and their searching parents. Our Executive Director is Gloria Yerkovich. Her daughter, Joanna, has been missing since December 20, 1974.

No one really knows how many other children are missing in this country. One figure occurs on a regular basis, from several independent sources: 50,000 "stranger abductions" every year. Is the number too high, too small? We have no way of knowing;there is no federal institution which has been created to record missing names from local jurisdictions on a national basis. The number 50,000 was arrived at by counting up missing children reports from counties across the country. Who can say how many were lost again - first, reported lost by their parents, then filed away on an index card in a County Sheriff's office?

In addition to these 50,000, another 100,000 children are snatched by a non-custodial parent. A recent report from the California Lutheran College Child-Kidnapping Study puts the number of parental abductions at 400,000 annually. The number of unreported cases is so high because parents, despairing of help, simply don't bother to report their abducted child to the police; they know that once the word "custody" is raised, they are not likely to receive substantial help.

Let us put the number of missing children, then, at a conservative 150,000 per annum. How long before the roulette ball drops into the pocket of someone we know? Or even closer?

I think that most Americans have a healthy respect, and an even healthier skepticism, for our government. There are some programs which are anathema to some of us; others which seem to spring full-grown and perfectly conceived from our two houses of representation and which we feel speak directly to a personal problem. We win some and we lose some. Compared to other governments, the average tips the scale toward the national good.

Until you lose a child. Then, every compromise, every illusion you have conjured up about your government shatters. Without a ransom note, without proof that your child was taken across state lines (proof that is realized all too often, and too late, when your child's body is discovered in another state) the searching parent will watch his local police mount a massive, thorough, dedicated hunt which will extend to the town, county, or state line and no further.

There is no national Missing Persons' Bureau.

There is no national methodology detailing co-operation between authorities from different states.

There is no publicly funded clearinghouse assigned exclusively to missing children's names.

There is no publicly funded national program which helps searching parents find their missing children.

CHILD FIND was created to help fill in this gap. So far as we know, we are the only organization maintaining a national registry of missing children. We have had to generate our own publicity so that searching parents will know about us. We have only been incorporated for a year. We have 1,200 names.

The national law enforcement rate for recovered children stands at about 10%. As many children as are recovered alive are found dead. That adds up to 20%. It's not enough.

Gloria Yerkovich founded Child Find in August of 1980. Since then, we have helped about 35% of the parents who have registered with us locate their children. We do this in a number of ways.

First of all, there's publicity. Every time we go on television or a story appears on us, we make sure that photographs of our missing children are included.

Secondly, we have learned who's who in the private investigation business. Ms. Yerkovich learned, the hard way, that the detective who appears on "60 Minutes" is not necessarily the detective who can help you find your child.

Third, we have a network of searching parents. There is no dedication like that of a parent whose own child is missing. We ask these parents to look out for missing children who may be in their geographic location. We don't get many false leads. We do recover a few children.

But by far our single most important effort is our outreach program to the missing children themselves. We have Public Service Announcements broadcasted on both radio and television which directly address the children. They say, in effect, Is there a parent you haven't seen who you think may be looking for you? Call our toll-free number; Child Find will try to help you find your parents.

We can always tell when one of our PSA's has been aired. The phone rings off the hook for an hour and a half afterwards.

When we began this program, everyone said "They'll never call you." Well, obviously, not all of them have. But we have over 100 names of searching children who are looking for their parents. Tragically, not one of them matches up to names given us by searching parents. We have to tell the children that we're still looking.

We have a number of alternatives when we receive a phone call. First, we ask the child if the person he's living with knows that he's calling us. If he does, we proceed one way; if he doesn't, we proceed another. If the child is in an abusive situation, we proceed a third way.

If there's no abuse, but the child has not told the people he's living with that he's calling us, we ask the child to call us as often as he wishes on our toll-free line, and we keep looking.

If there were a national clearinghouse which contained the name of every missing child, we could have an answer for that child in minutes.

Lastly, we are working with schools in two ways. First of all, we have printed a poster which we hope to have hung in every public school library across the country. Older children will be able to read it themselves. We have prepared guidelines that will aid librarians in explaining the poster, and Child Find's purpose, to library groups of younger children.

We don't have the money yet to mail them out. We don't have the money to "sell" the idea to schools. But we send the poster to every PTA or school employee who asks for one.

In addition to the posters, we have compiled a directory with names and physical descriptions and photographs of our registered missing children which is being distributed to every police agency and school on our mailing list. With luck, a teacher will look through our directory, walk into her classroom, and recognize a missing child. With less luck, a policeman will recognize an unidentified body. But at least, the searching parent will be able to focus his or her grief; it will no longer be the grief of speculation; it will be the grief of knowledge.

* * * *

We are all here today to examine the problem of missing children. It is absolutely critical that we establish a policy which guarantees that the various criteria used to determine whether or not a child is to be considered a missing child be subject to the most generous interpretation. We must not begin by discriminating against kinds of missing children. It seems to me that there is only one piece of information necessary: Does the legal custodian of the child know where the child is? If not, the child is in trouble.

We can only begin to imagine the horror and the dread that a parent experiences upon learning that his child is missing. For some of us, this is all the vicarious terror we can bear. We hear it, register it, perhaps even experience it for a moment. But ultimately, the horror is too infinite to comprehend. Still, something has changed. We have learned that there are even greater sorrows in the world than those that have stricken us.

Too often, the next step is an evasive one. Having learned a little, we can bear to learn no more. We plug our ears. Our heart has broken for one child; must it break for thousands?

And so the discrimination begins. I will grieve for this kind of stolen child, but not this kind or that kind. I will grieve for a child who simply disappears from the school playground, but I will not grieve for a child who runs away from home. I will grieve for a child who, through some aberration of our child welfare system, winds up in Jonestown, but I will not grieve for a child whose non-custodial parent steals him ... and takes him to Jonestown.

If you are going to help, you must help them all. You cannot protect these children if you are going to protect yourselves first. You must make room in your heart for every missing child.

The majority of missing children registered with Child Find are victims of parental snatchings. If your ears and heart are already closing, I beg you to keep them open one moment longer. Parental child abuse is a fact. Parents hurt, and kill, their children every day.

Child abuse reporting centers receive 1,000,000 reports every year. Every four hours, a child dies as the direct result of physical abuse inflicted by a parent.

We must not assume that a parent who breaks a civil law, will respect a social law. On the contrary, we must assume that a parent who breaks civil laws will break the laws of responsible parenting. Because that is what our evidence proves.

You are saying to yourselves, "What does this have to do with the problem of missing children as we are studying it today?" You may be saying, yes, of course, it's illegal to snatch a child who is no longer under your legal guardianship, but that's very different from a stranger kidnapping. At least you know the child is safe somewhere with a parent.

That is the myth. The one we create because the truth is such a distortion of the picture we like to cherish of the happy American family.

As the problem of domestic violence and parental child abuse slowly comes to light, it becomes clear that we have known little, and admitted even less, about the disastrous effects of our larger national troubles upon individual families. But one fact is undeniably true: for whatever reason, more and more parents are turning on their children and venting their rage upon them. There are national and local groups across the country, with titles like Parents Anonymous, which counsel abusive parents. While Child Find commends these groups for their sympathetic approach, the fact remains that it is these parents who are likely to be sued for divorce, lose custody, and abduct their children.

It is possible that these parents "love" their children. "Love" is perhaps the single most common motive for domestic murders. When "love" is frustrated, violence follows.

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For two and a half years, Gloria Yerkovich patiently waited for her county, state, and federal officials to come to her daughter's aid. There was a lot of talk about felony warrants and NCIC computers. It turned out that no one in her county was exactly sure how to proceed on a parental abduction case.

Finally, Ms. Yerkovich realized that whatever was being done was being done in a vacuum purposely, and honorably, guaranteed in our constitution. It is every citizen's constitutional right to disappear, to remain anonymous, not to be accounted for. But what happens if you disappear with a child?

The ramifications of organizing a way to keep track of us, without invading our privacy, are too complex to be easily evaluated. It is certainly not a job for a private agency. Instead, Ms. Yerkovich stopped waiting, and decided that it was past time that somebody offer missing children a way to reach out to their searching parents. You have only to read any random newspaper to see a story about someone who has devoted a lifetime to searching for his parents. It takes some people their whole lives. Ms. Yerkovich couldn't wait for someone else to organize Child Find. She has a daughter out there.

From her personal experience, Ms. Yerkovich knew what the motive was that generates a child-abduction. Even the American Bar Association agrees. It's revenge.

What she was not prepared for were the stories she began to hear from other searching parents and other private agencies. One group in California discovered that in 500 case studies, 90% of the abducting parents had a history of emotional or physical abuse. Another group in Washington told us that after the revenge anger cools, abducting parents are likely to abandon their children, to distant relatives, friends, strangers, perhaps a foster home (and from there to Jonestown?)

But this was hearsay. When we began to talk to parents we nurtured no preconceptions, fostered no rumours. We simply waited to see for ourselves.

The majority of children who are registered with us sustained parental child abuse. They were either beaten, subjected to sexual molestation, or neglected. More often it is the father who is violent, and the mother who is neglectful. 35% of our registered searching parents are men with legal custody whose former wives have stolen their children.

60 of the abducting parents have criminal records: Some take the child for a weekend and just don't come back. Some have broken down doors and snatched their children out of a parent's, babysitter's, or grandparent's arms. Others have arrived with gangs, beaten the custodial parent, fled with the child. Others use cars to run down the custodial parent.

What are the first fears that assault any parent whose child has disappeared? If it were you, what would your first reaction be? "Where is my child? Will my child be harmed? Who has my child?"

Now take a lateral step to another sequence. You are a battered wife. Your children have been beaten, in front of you, while your husband silently dares you to intercede. If you do, you are beaten too. If you don't, he has won anyway. "You don't even care," he sneers.

Finally, finally, maybe even after years, you realize that it will never change. You have no skills, no money, no way to support your children, but the proof that your children suffer can no longer be denied. They limp. They have broken bones. Teeth are missing. Or. Finally, she breaks down and confesses that she's afraid to stay alone with Daddy. "He said if I ever told you... He said it was because I was a bad girl... He said you knew... He made me swear on Grandma's grave..."

And so the present becomes so unbearable that you finally find the courage to leave. You don't speculate about the future; you just pray that as soon as the divorce is over, and you have won custody, you will begin to earn the trust which every child bestows on his parent.

In order to get the thing over with, you agree to whatever visitation the court prescribes. You don't give it a second thought, really. It was so clear that your children only inspired cruelty and violence in your former spouse that you can't imagine your husband even bothering to visit them. But he does. And he takes them away. And you never see them again.

Now, is it any more comforting to know that your child is with someone with a history of violence than with an unknown stranger? Let us not judge whether it is "better" for a child to be hurt at the hands of a parent than a stranger. Let us, instead, try to find the child.

Sometimes a searching parent will hear from her children. Or of them. A phone call: "Mommy, I'm..." The phone is snatched away. Or. A phone call "Listen to this..." You hear your child screaming in the background. Or you receive a bloody band-aid in the mail. Or a dead fish. Or a piece of a toenail Or a letter: "I'm leaving you the way I found you - alone and childless." All of this has happened to parents registered with us.

This is not the place to discuss the legal and legislative remedies long overdue to these searching parents. It is the place to make a plea on their children's behalf. Their children are missing children. Their children are in danger. Every missing child is a child in danger. Until someone can prove otherwise, this is an assumption we have got to make before it's too late.

It was too late for "Juanita." Juanita disappeared last fall with her sister. Her mother was panic-stricken. "I know her father has her, and he's always had it in for her. Please help me find her. He's hurt them both before." ... Another hysterical mother. She was told: "They'll turn up ... the guy's just watching you squirm."

Juanita did turn up. Dead - in the Hudson river. No one has found her sister, or her father. But the police did find a note in his apartment. It said, "God forgive me for what I'm about to do."

It was too late for Neely Smith. Her mother registered Neely with us early in April of this year. She had divorced her husband not long before; it was as friendly as something as emotionally painful as divorce can be. Mrs. Smith maintained that her husband had not taken Neely. He had passed a lie detector test confirming this. He was frantic too. "Just an act," the police said. "He's got her with family somewhere."

Neely's body was found in a wooded area not far from her home a few weeks later. It was a stranger abduction after all. In the ugly, petty world of procedure, Neely Smith was lost to an imaginary domestic squabble.

"Patty" was snatched when she was 2½. She was found, alive, six months later, halfway across the country, covered with cigarette burns, half-starved, feverish.

"Joey" was stolen by his father when he was nine months old. He was found, alone, sleeping in a car. He and his father had lived off the garbage behind the local supermarket for the four months they were gone.

"Randy" and his sister "Missy" were stolen nearly two years ago. Their mother belongs to a religious cult. She has devised her own special methods of punishment for her children as befit her religious beliefs. One includes hours of prayer, bare-kneed, on kernels of rice. Another is two boards used for beatings. They are called "Mr. Ouch" and "Mr. Persuasion." We haven't been able to find Randy and Missy.

"Joy" was found. She was abducted at six. By the age of twelve she was a classic "problem" child. Deeply involved in drugs, failing in school, she had appeared in Juvenile court several times. She was just too much trouble. Voluntarily, her abducting parent returned her. I don't know exactly how it was accomplished ... a possible scenario might be "Look, I've had it. You do have another parent. I don't know what to do with you. Better luck next time."

But the emotional damage had been done. The years of hiding, of lies, of an undercover life, could not suddenly be erased. "Joy" couldn't cope. At 14, Joy killed herself.

We also can't find "Linda." She was snatched by her father just after her mother divorced him. After years of molestation, the little girl had broken down. Her mother was a nurse. "Please, Mommy, I'm begging you, don't go to work tonight. I promised never to tell you, but he hurts me so bad. I know it's my fault, but Mommy, Mommy, I'll be good, please, just don't leave me alone with him again." Divorce. Custody. Visitation. Missing child.

We can't find "Justin" either. After a divorce, Justin's mother remarried. Her second husband regularly beat Justin. His mother watched, praying that soon, any day, the beatings would end, and the man would accept Justin as a son. But Justin was afraid to wait. He ran away. Oh... a runaway ... well ... Something inside of us closes up when we hear that word. Is it because we perceive the child no longer as a passive victim, but as an adult protagonist who has made a decision and must live with it? Or because we all remember running away once or twice ourselves, to Grandma's or to a friend's house, cherishing our parents' fright, savoring our moment of power: "Now they'll see how it feels."

I have no doubt that part of this may have motivated Justin.

He may have hoped to jolt his mother into action so that she would confront his step-father, draw a line, make rules. He left because he was afraid and in pain and angry and, with justification, terrified. He did what children do when they are desperate. He ran away.

But that was in June. And Justin is only eight. And Sgt. Dick Ruffino will tell you that most runaways end up dead.

Runaways leave home for a reason. If the reason turns out to be a history of abuse, then the child deserves another classification and another chance. The runaway should become a missing child.

Parents snatch children for a reason. We are not talking about the rare case when a parent has lost custody on a technicality and knows his or her child to be living in an abusive situation. We'll concede that these abduction situations comprise a fractional component of the overall picture of parental abductions.

Again, the primary motive for a parental abduction is, plain and simple, revenge. It is a revenge far sweeter and longer lived than a beating or even murder, for it never ends. Every day the abducting parent has the child, the searching parent doesn't.

Strangers snatch children for a reason. Money. Perversion. Lunacy. A reason we can't comprehend. But a reason that results in one more missing child.

In all these cases a child is in danger. Is there any person anywhere who could argue for a second that some kinds of missing children should be treated one way and others not? For God's sake, let us treat them all as our most precious endangered species, stop arguing about who is an eligible missing child and who isn't, before there is one more Etan Patz, Neely Smith, Joanna Yerkovich, or Adam Walsh to accuse us.

* * * * *

We are losing children. When we add up the numbers, we find a total with six digits. We are here because for every child who is lost, there was a parent who turned to the government and was turned away.

If you are going to start helping now, in the middle, you had better start by admitting your mistakes in the beginning. The Lindbergh Act carefully excludes almost every searching parent who needs it; again, only parents whose missing children conform to very specific criteria fall under the jurisdiction of this Act. The Federal Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980 has, to my knowledge, been implemented once. But we have copies of memos distributed by the FBI directing its officers to ignore the Act. In other words, the FBI has no plans to become involved in parental abductions, though it has been given authorization to do so. As far as I know they have not been directed to broaden the Act's guidelines, either.

When I first began working for Child Find, I couldn't believe the truth. I thought all the parents I was talking to were crazy. Or exceptions. Or too uneducated to acquire the assistance they needed. I simply could not take in the fact that THERE WAS NO ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE. "But the government...!" I kept stuttering. "The FBI! The national missing persons bureau! Teletype machines! Networks!"

The FBI will look for Patty Hearst, but not for Etan Patz. There is no national missing persons bureau. Teletype machines reach out to perhaps half the major cities in our country. And networks? Yes, there are networks. There are some police who do not operate on assumptions or prejudices but who conscientiously pursue every missing child, regardless of circumstances, money, manpower, or time.

And there are networks of private organizations like Child Find. And we come, here, to some of the solutions that have been created in the absence of any national federal solution. We are the first to admit that we are only making a tiny dent in the context of an enormous national tragedy.

Almost every private agency has been founded by a searching parent. These are people who went first to their government, found nothing, and began filling in the gaps.

None of us can do the whole job by ourselves. And neither can you. We can't afford to listen to promises from anyone who claims to be able to handle the whole problem.

It is too complicated, too vast. Too well-organized; too spontaneous. There are always "ifs."

As American citizens, we trust you with our education, our constitutional rights, our retirement, our old age. And in our last moment of innocence, when we come to you for help because our children are missing, we trust you with something so precious, so fundamental, that when you turn us away, you have, in effect, lost us.

Now, you say, you are ready to help. Good. But please forgive us if we look at you defensively,warily. Where were you on May 25, 1979? Where were you when the mothers of Atlanta pleaded with you a year ago? Where were you on August 11, 1981? Where were you on December 20, 1974?

You were not there, then. You say you may be here sometime in the future. We welcome you. We need you. But we can't wait for you.

* * * * *

As I see it, there are several functions which can only be accomplished by an institution as large as our federal government. First of all, obviously, we are in desperate need of a national clearinghouse storing information on missing children. The names in this computer should be available to all private organizations, like Child Find, who have a proven and irreproachable record of credible dedication with missing persons' cases. One of the first things you will have to do is learn to share. Our network did not form instantaneously. All of our groups check out all other groups very carefully. If you want to join us in our work, if you want to know the names of our registered missing children, you must observe our rules. You are coming in very late. We trusted you before and you weren't there. You must earn our trust again.

You can do this, as I said, by recommending that a national clearinghouse be established. That's step one. And since I'm here, and I've got a shot at the pie, I'm going to see if I can't come away with the whole damn bakery.

We are going to begin advising private citizens to take precautions with their children. One of these measures suggests that parents voluntarily take their children down to the local police station and have them fingerprinted. There's no need to leave the fingerprints there; parents can bring them home and there's no formal record of your child's prints anywhere.

But. If the child turns up missing one day, you are quantum leaps ahead of the usual procedure. Once the government computer is operational, you can take these fingerprints back down to the local police station where they will be sent to the federal clearinghouse. If the fingerprints do not match up with those of unidentified bodies, they are then made available to hospital emergency rooms and child abuse protective shelters and other institutions with access to children. We would like to see all such agencies fingerprint abused children and check them against those stored in the national computer. We would like to see all state child abuse agencies check with our private organizations, to see if their abused children match up with our missing children. These agencies could be directed to ours through a federal clearinghouse.

And, although it seems to go against every principle of our democratic society, we would like to see children fingerprinted when they register for school. This clearly conflicts with our right to privacy; but abduction conflicts with our children's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We must weigh the risks against the advantages.

You can also help by seeing that children learn how to avoid potential abduction situations. I don't want you to run out and hire actors and producers and start filming. It's already been done. There again, the private sector has stepped into the void left by the government. But they don't have the money to distribute these films nationwide. Unfortunately, demand far exceeds supply when it comes to distributing the two best preventive films we know of. The federal government might contact the universities where these films were produced and see that enough copies are made so that they can be shown across the country.

Searching parents are broke parents. Because these parents are their only resource, they are often their own form of financial funding. I am not asking that you subsidize them. (Although you may be interested to learn that in Norway the Sovereign State does, in fact, bear all costs related to the search for missing children. We recently located a child here in the U.S. who had been abducted from Norway. Her mother did not have to pay a penny of our $50 registration fee.) I am asking that the legal aid agencies across the country, which are being shut down right and left, be funded again. As usual, the criminal has no legal expenses until he's caught. The searching parent often pays his attorney to research the problem only to be told that further action will come at astronomical fees. No money, no legal representation, no child. The victim is victimized again.

We also need a special task force of investigators who know how to find missing children. Who will know how to make use of all the available resources. Perhaps a special branch of the FBI. I think we need a specially trained core of people whose first qualification is that they've done it before; or that they care enough to learn how to do it.

* * * * *

When Gloria Yerkovich first organized Child Find, she quickly established a communications network with the dozen or so other agencies offering assistance to searching parents. By putting all of these agencies in touch with each other, letting each know the primary focus of the others, she helped each to more clearly define its own goals, and to avoid duplicating work already being done by another.

The booklet was called "Who Cares About Missing Children?" We hope, one day, to be able to add the United States Government to our list.

You have already heard the most eloquent voices on the subject.of missing children. When we see Julie Patz and John Walsh, we see a courage so profound, so cruelly tested that it is hard to remember that it is something they never knew they possessed; never, in their darkest, most private moments, dreamed they'd need. It is also a courage they can't escape. They must live with their courage, as they live with their sorrow. When you meet people like the Walshes and the Patzes, you realize that there is something more powerful, more unalterable, more acute than any spiritual, religious or cosmic force we can name. It is the love of a parent for a child. No amount of government inadequacy, social indifference, or unendurable reality can change it. It is there - pure, uncorrupted, atomic in its power. It is, perhaps, the one last emotion which is universal in its irrefutability. If you join us, you will find that it is your single greatest resource.

Kristin Cole Brown
Information Director
CHILD FIND, INC.
P.O. Box 277
New Paltz, New York 12561-0277
(914) 255-1848

Senator **Hawkins**. Sergeant Ruffino, we appreciate your work with the Bergen County sheriff's office, as well as all the many hours of time you have devoted out of your personal life in search of missing children and the identification of unknown deceased individuals.

I am curious as to what motivated you to begin this work.

Sergeant **Ruffino**. Madam Chairman, on behalf of the Bergen County Sheriff's Department and the Honorable Joseph F. Job, sheriff, it is a pleasure to be here to cast my views and our departmental views on the ever-growing problem that we are having.

The Bergen County Sheriff's Department Missing Persons Bureau and Unidentified Squad was started by me in August of 1976. At that time, we were summoned by the New York State Police; they had fished a young woman out of a lake up there and had indicated to us that according to their computer records, there were three people that matched that description missing from Bergen County.

The sheriff assigned me to the investigation to assist these New York authorities, and when I went to check on the so-called missing people, I had nowhere to go. There was no agency; they were in the computer, but nobody knew what agency had put them in the computer. It is an individual-type situation.

In our county, we have 71 municipalities, and each municipality at that time was submitting into the teletype system their own problems without any major contact with any other agencies. I brought this to the attention of the sheriff, and I thought that it would be a good idea if we were to have a centralized agency within the county of Bergen to monitor missing as well as unidentified people.

I do believe that we are the only missing persons bureau, probably, in the entire United States that monitors missing people out of our jurisdiction. Most missing persons bureaus only will monitor anything within their city, their town, or if it is a county level, within the county, or the State if it is on the State level.

We monitor people who are missing throughout the United States, as well as monitoring people who are found deceased throughout the United States. Along with that, I maintain records as to cause of death. What I do is everytime I receive a teletype—we will say, for instance, a person was shot with a .22 in Pennsylvania, and a person is shot in New Jersey with a .22. I will contact the Pennsylvania authorities as well as the New Jersey authorities that they have a similar incident, and it is up to them to get together to get a ballistics check on that weapon to see if, in fact, the criminal that committed the one crime may be, in fact, responsible for the second crime. So, therefore, we have them categorized.

I think the thing we should really bring to your attention is the fact that as Mr. Walsh said, law enforcement is lax, but not all law enforcement. We have a lot of agencies that are really interested in the problem. I was speaking with Captain Michna last evening, and he and I share the same view. It is nice to sit down and talk to somebody who does share the same views.

The fact that we can get a Federal computer to get these people in—and I am talking about adults as well as children because I think that a person missing is a person missing. I, in fact, do not like the word "runaway." We on our staff do not consider anybody a runaway until an investigation has been instituted and we can come up with some facts as to why this person has disappeared.

Contrary to popular belief, many, many runaways do wind up deceased. Therefore, we maintain records in the United States on all people that are deceased. We also maintain records on people who are missing throughout the United States. If I find the description of a person missing from California and a person found deceased in Kansas, I will contact the authorities in California and let them know that, "You reported so-and-so missing, and out in Kansas they have a person that is reported to us as being deceased. It would probably be worthwhile to look into it." They do; they do.

A lot of people are unaware of the services that are available to them. I mainly work in the jurisdiction of New York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania because of budgetary reasons. Anything other than that we do by telephone. We have assisted many, many agencies as far out as California, New Mexico, Alabama, and Georgia.

But the problem is this, Madam Chairman: We have a teletype machine for law enforcement that nobody reads. A teletype will come on the wire and nobody reads it.

Senator **Hawkins**. Nobody reads it?

Sergeant **Ruffino**. No, and I will give you a classic example. When Georgia was having their problem down in Atlanta, they sent out a teletype to all agencies on a national basis requesting that any agency having a similar type of homicide as they were experiencing in Atlanta, would they please send them the information.

I, in turn, waited 1 week to answer this because I knew what the response was going to be. One week later, I called Atlanta—Major Graham from Fulton County—and I asked him how many responses he had gotten to his national teletype. He told me that up to the point that I had called, they received nine on a national basis. I, in fact, have 370 similar incidents throughout the country.

I call your attention to the fact that I have a teletype here, and I will ask everybody, including yourself, Madam Chairman, how many people you know with a glass eye. Does anybody in the room know anybody with a glass eye?

Well, here is a teletype from Gainesville, Ga., and the teletype says:

> On May 22, 1980, the skeletal remains of a white female were found. She is a Caucasian female with black affiliation, five foot, three, 20 to 24 years of age, with a brown artificial eye. She has an old head trauma which took severe surgery.

Now, I cannot believe that even if the parent or the husband or someone did not report her missing, the doctor or a friend would not know that this girl is dead. So, therefore, the teletype communication system is working against us. What is the sense of having it if nobody is reading it?

You talked about the Colorado Bureau of Identification insofar as a bank for unidentified or unclaimed bodies. Yes, I am a strong advocate of that, providing that it is done properly. We have teletypes here; these are teletypes I have received so far this year—this is just one category—of all people that have been found deceased that we have received, allowing for our machine to be down.

Now, I would dare say that probably 70 percent of these teletypes are incorrect.

Senator HAWKINS. Incorrect?

Sergeant RUFFINO. Yes. They are incorrect because they were probably sent out the day the body was found, and I have found discrepancies of up to 5 inches in height after an autopsy has been performed. And a subsequent teletype very rarely follows the initial teletype, which means this: Two officers will respond to a river because there is somebody in the river. One officer will look at the other and say, "How tall do you think that person is?" The other guy says, "Well, I think he is about 5 foot, 9, and he probably weighs about 160 pounds. He has got a beard and brown hair." The next day, we have a followup; we go right to the morgue and we do our own followups, our own photography and everything, to find out that the man is, in fact, 5 foot, 4; he is 140 pounds; he does not have a beard. What they considered a beard on his face is nothing more than the muck from the river.

When that teletype went out on the air, that went to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. They would have that man listed with a beard. So, that would throw off the description of who you are looking for.

The fact that nobody knows about the Colorado Bureau of Investigation means that it is going to be a long-term type of thing to get law enforcement to get into it. The fact that law enforcement does not know that every juvenile could go into NCIC is a problem.

Whenever we get a case in Bergen County—and our success rate on missing persons, incidentally, I might add, is 98 percent. On the unclaimed bodies, we have assisted—and I use the word "assisted"—72 agencies, and out of the 72 agencies, we have managed to put names on approximately 63 people who have been dead up to 3 years.

So, putting everything in its perspective and allowing for the medical examiner to be incorrect on his post and allowing the first teletype to go out which would be incorrect—when you find a person that is deceased and he has clothes on, after the autopsy has been performed, you are liable to find a tattoo or a scar or a mark that was not on the initial report and then if a subsequent one does not come out and somebody inquires about that person and the tattoo is not there, they are not going to claim them; they are not going to think that it is that person.

What I would like to see—and I have been fighting for this quite a long while—while we are on the topic, I would like to see legislation passed that all prostheses—dental, as well as anything placed in the body such as pins for broken bones—have the person's social security number on them.

We find many, many times a person who is deceased with false teeth. I have a young man—we have no age on him—who has an 8-inch pin in his leg; he is skeletonized. Now, if we had a social security number on it, we would know who that person was, and it is really not that much to ask for. You are arming us with more ammunition to combat the problem.

Yes, with everybody concerned here—and I certainly admire your views; otherwise, you would not be here—the problem can be cut down considerably; a lot more, probably, than you would ever think it could be. I have been doing this for 5 years. I have been in the medical profession for 25 years; I have graduated from a New York postmedical school in forensic pathology and forensic dentistry.

I know it can be done if people want to do it. It is the idea of getting the line officer—it is the same thing, Madam Chairman, as the waiting period. It is the most absurd thing I have ever heard in my life. I believe the captain will agree with me that the first 24 hours of any investigation is the most prime time.

We are going to put this person immediately into NCIC. We are now equipping the road patrol. If a person wants to go across country, they can get from the east coast to the west coast in a matter of 2 or 3 days. So, if we equip this machine with this information and they are on a road check, it is there. But if you have a 24-, 32-, or 72-hour waiting period, we are losing all this valuable time.

Senator **Hawkins**. I appreciate so much your concern and your being involved when it was not in your job description. So many of us confine ourselves so tightly to what we are supposed to do instead of what is before us to do. And I believe that your testimony here has really provided us with some insight into a solution to a problem that we know has to be solved.

As you say, Sergeant, we can do what we want to do; we have proven that over and over again, and especially if we work together. I think one of the problems I found here was that this group is—Captain Michna was talking about having Houston do so well. I wondered if that was countywide. Is Houston a countywide system?

Captain **Michna**. That is the city of Houston.

Senator **Hawkins**. So, do you run into trouble if it is outside the city limits and it is in the county limits?

Captain MICHNA. Yes; Houston is, I think, a mecca now for a lot of Americans, and the problem is increasing as more and more people come into the Houston area.

Senator HAWKINS. I recall vividly that one time someone was coming to visit us in the small town I live in in Florida, and as they rounded the curve in the road about a block from my house, someone came out of a side road and hit their car. They called me and asked me what to do, and I called the city police where I live, because I could almost see the accident. And when they arrived, they said that was one block over into the county and I would have to call the sheriff to report that.

That was a minor thing, but as we do grow, and as you say, Sergeant, you have got 71 municipalities in your area and each one sometimes feels a turf responsibility, or in their job description they are responsible for an invisible line that divides us. And that really should bring us together, I feel.

By the great examples that you three have shown us as to how, through volunteerism and also by meeting your call above and beyond the call of the duty—I think we have established the beginning of the solution to the problem, because we know it is a national emergency; we know it is a national tragedy.

It is imperative, I feel, after listening to the testimony that we have gathered together today and, as you know, made a record now out of this that we can supply to our colleagues on both sides—the Senate side and the House side—they can read this hearing today. The demands on their time are so constrained that they cannot all be here physically, but we will see that they read it, and we indeed can start working together.

Sergeant?

Sergeant RUFFINO. Madam Chairman, Mr. Walsh said something that pretty much bit home. Why should a family that is missing someone, a child or an adult, be subjected to a private investigator who is, the majority of the time, a charlatan and who will sit down with me to investigate the case, when I can do it myself? Why do they have to be bled of their life savings?

Their rates are phenomenal—anywhere from $250 a day, plus expenses, to $475 a day, plus expenses. That service as taxpayers is owed to them.

Senator HAWKINS. I believed we have learned today, if we did not know it before, that whatever the price tag is on this, it is modest in comparison to the results we will attain, since there are so many others out there who would like to help solve this problem but do not have the keys. We need to have the national network and it needs to be available to all.

Sergeant RUFFINO. I have three cases here which I really will not go into, but we are talking about parental kidnapping. If a mother has custody of a child and the father takes that child and he is in violation of a court order, why cannot a warrant be issued for his arrest for the safety of that child?

I have personally had three cases of child custody; in all three cases, the child is dead. Now, if a warrant were issued for his arrest, we might have been able to save that child. But, yet, it was not on the wire when that child was found in the river or wherever they were found. When I went to check my files on children that were missing, it did not show up in the teletype because it did not qualify to go on the teletype, because to kidnap your own child is not a crime.

[The prepared statement of Sergeant Ruffino and additional material supplied for the record follows:]

TESTIMONY OF

SERGEANT RICHARD RUFFINO

July of 1976 New York State Police sent a letter to Sheriff Joseph F. Job of Bergen County, New Jersey requesting that he have his missing persons department assist on a case of an unidentified girl floating in Greenwood Lake. At that time Bergen County had no such department. Detective Sergeant Richard Ruffino volunteered to organize such a department.

The Bergen County Sheriff's Missing Person's Bureau was started August, 1976 on a trial basis. During this time teletypes were sent out, a copy of which is attached all over the nation on missing and unidentified persons. From this our files were compiled and are being kept up-to-date.

A few cases were handled by this office as an assisting agency and have proved to be successful.

I then brought this to Sheriff Joseph F. Job in the beginning of the latter part of October 1977. Sheriff Job indicated that creating a unit such as this would be beneficial to the people of Bergen County.

Officially organized November 1, 1977, Sheriff Job instituted the first County-wide Missing Persons Bureau in the State of New Jersey. The unit has to this date assisted local law enforcement agencies in 190 investigations, of which 3 remain open. The majority of these are teenageers ranging in age from 10 years old to 16 years old which I might add some have been found deceased in the Tri-State area.

This unit also maintains files on unidentified victims found through-out the United States, and will act and does act as liaisons for any agency requesting assistance in identification of unknown deceased persons. Listing various causes of death.

This portion of missing persons has assisted various law enforcement agencies in 72 cases of which 9 remain open. The age grouping of unknown deceased are from infancy to approximately 60 years of age. The majority of which are teenagers 17 and below.

This six-man unit acts as an assisting agency to any local law enforcement agency within our jurisdiction.

We have on occasion assisted out of our county due to circumstances no other missing persons agency could help.

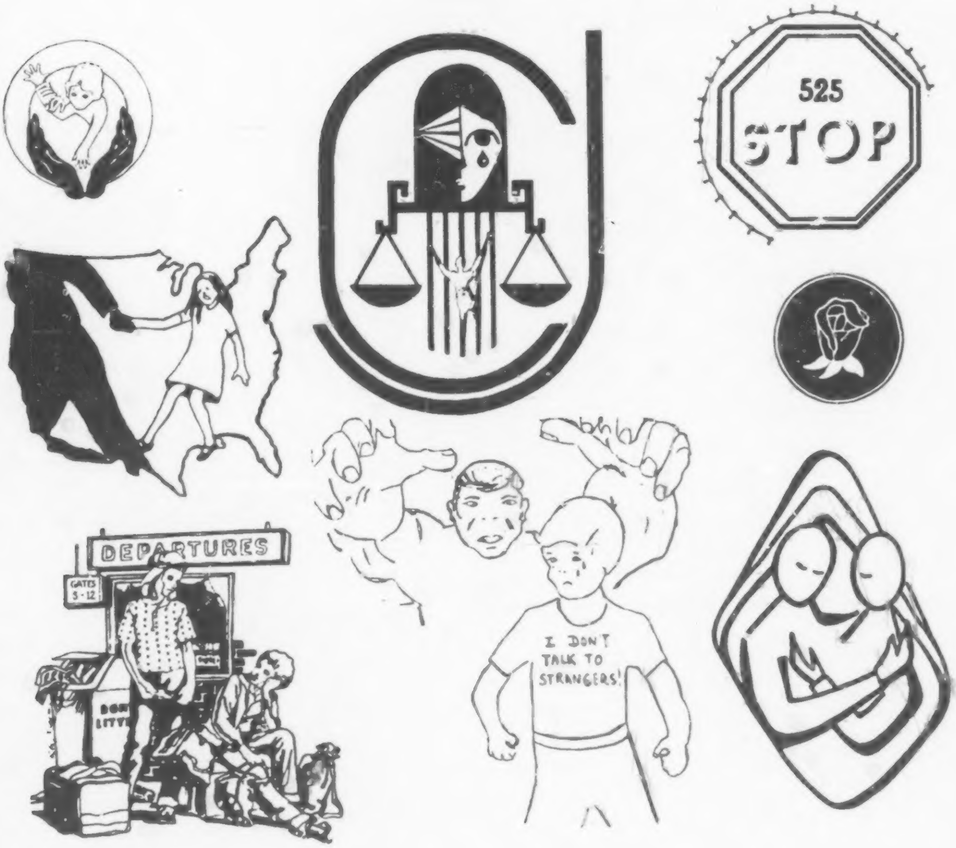
The Bergen County Sheriff's Department at the present time is acting as a clearing house for the State of New Jersey on missing and unidentified people.

At present we maintain availability around the clock service of this unit.

LET'S HAVE

ACTION

OUR LOVED ONES HAVE BEEN MISSING TOO LONG!


525
STOP
DEPARTURES
GATES 5-12
I DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS!

ACTION

IS

A
CONFEDERATION
TO
INFORM
OTHERS
NATIONALLY

IT IS A LISTING OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS DEDICATED TO INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE MISSING PERSONS SYNDROME AND THE VULNERABILITY OF OUR YOUTHS TO THOSE WHO WOULD ABDUCT THEM FOR ILLEGAL ACTS.

THIS INFORMATIONAL BOOKLET WAS COMPILED FROM INFORMATION FURNISHED BY MANY OF THE AGENCIES LISTED. ITS PURPOSES ARE:

1. *To inform legislative personnel, news media, and the general public about the magnitude of the problem.*
2. *To act as a handbook by families who have someone missing.*
3. *To urge lawmakers to give needed legislation.*
4. *To urge law enforcement personnel to give missing cases a higher priority.*

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This "Action" booklet is not copywrited. The use of any portion of this booklet is encouraged. However, it is requested that credit be given to one of the agencies listed when using this information. We want to get our efforts known to the general public, you can help by using this information and by giving any agency credit for it.

AGENDA

MISSING PERSONS SEMINAR

Washington, DC Summer of 1981

Held at time of hearings on Missing Persons Act

The intent is to discuss any thoughts or ideas that anyone has that would improve the development of interest of the missing persons problem with the general public. Also to be included will be suggestions each may have to improve our effectiveness.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

SHARING OF INFORMATION

IDEAS FOR MASS PUBLICITY

INTER AGENCY REFERRALS

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

INTER AGENCY NEWSLETTER

EACH PROMOTING THE OTHER

ANNUAL CONFERENCES?

ANY OTHER IDEAS

ACTION AGENCIES

BERGEN COUNTY MISSING PERSONS BUREAU, (Sgt. Dick Ruffino) 201/646-2192
1 Court St., Hackensack, NJ. 07601
——maintains perhaps the largest data bank in U.S. on unidentified bodies.

CHILD FIND, INC., (Gloria Yerkovich) 914/691-7394
P.O. Box 277, New Paltz, NY. 12561
——distributes CHILD FIND magazine to schools/officials; communicates to children through schools/public media; computerized matching of children with registered parents.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS, INC., (Arnie Miller) 202/462-7573
3443 17th St. NW, Washington, DC. 22210
——lobbies for legislation to deter child snatching; publishes handbook for parents of snatched children.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS OF NEW YORK, INC., (John Gill) 516/751-7840
19 Maple St., Stony Brook, NY. 11790
——supports legislation to outlaw child-stealing; public education program; counseling for victimized parents.

COMMITTEE TO FIND ETAN PATZ, (Julie Patz) 212/777-3683
760 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove, NJ. 07009
——seeks national clearinghouse; was instrumental in informing many ACTION agencies of each other.

COMMITTEE TO STOP CHILDREN'S MURDERS, (Camille Bell) 404/525-7867
859½ Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. NW, Atlanta, GA. 30314
——Atlanta parents committed to revitalizing family unity and reducing the current "tidal wave of crime".

CRISIS COALITION, (Rashad Muhammad) NOT FURNISHED
P.O. Box 1213, Montclair, NJ. 07042
——involved with Newark Five case.

*DEE SCOFIELD AWARENESS PROGRAM, INC., (Betty DiNova) 813/839-5025
4418 Bay Court Ave., Tampa, FL. 33611
——promotes awareness, legislation; aids victim's families; maintains scrapbook/statistics on missing children.

*FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF MISSING PERSONS, (Mary Miller) 206/782-8306
P.O. Box 21444, Seattle, WA. 98111
——victim assistance program conducted by specially trained volunteers.

*FIND-ME, INC., (John Clinkscales) 404/884-7419
P.O. Box 1612, Lagrange, GA. 30241
——promotes awareness and information to media and public; suggested and coordinated first joint meeting of ACTION agencies.

LEO HUMPHRIES, 504/241-0106
P.O. Box 26156, New Orleans, LA. 70186

KYLE'S STORY, (Louise Clinkscales) 404/884-7419
205 North Chilton Ave., LaGrange, Ga. 30240
——supplements FIND-ME in areas FIND-ME is prohibited by IRS regulations to work, such as promoting legislative changes.

*NATIONAL COALITION FOR CHILDREN'S JUSTICE, (Ken Wooden) 215/295-4236
1214 Evergreen Road, Yardley, PA. 19067
——promotes awareness through journalism/public speaking.

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN, (Charlotte Hullinger) 513/242-8025
1739 Bellavista, Cincinnati, OH. 45237
——compassionate outreach program; Mrs. Hullinger also serves on Pres. Reagan's Task Force on Law Enforcement.

ROBERTA JO SOCIETY, (Robin Steely) 614/474-5020
P.O. Box 124, Circleville, OH. 43113

SOCIETY FOR YOUNG VICTIMS, (June Vlasaty) 401/847-5083
29 Thurston Ave., Newport, RI. 02840
——first organization to lobby for national information center; licensed detective; organizes search teams for police agencies; maintains scrapbooks and computerized statistics.

STOLEN CHILD INFORMATION EXCHANGE, (Barbara Freeman) 714/847-2676
P.O. Box 465, Anaheim, CA. 92805
——helps parents locate snatched children through nation wide network of official/private contacts.

MILDRED STOERNER, 713/449-0355
3500 Aldine Bender, Box A, Houston, TX. 77032
——planning a nation wide missing person bureau.

STOP PARENTAL KIDNAPPING, INC., (Harold Miltsch) 716/454-4860
460 State Street, Suite 304, Rochester, NY. 14608
——publishes RETURN OUR CHILDREN and mails to 110,000 schools nation wide and to pediatricians, etc.

* * * * * *

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, (Pat Hoff) 202/331-2256
1800 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. 20036
——maintains national directory of missing persons; information available on child custody/kidnap laws.

* * * * * *

SEARCH, (Charles Sutherland) 800/526-4603
560 Sylvan Ave., Englewood Cliffs, NJ. 07632
——publishes SEARCH with photos of missing persons and mails nationally to law enforcement agencies, hospitals, social services, transportation terminals.

* * * * * *

AMBASSADOR SPECIAL SERVICES, LTD., (Alice Byrne) 212/951-6159
2055 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, NY. 11234
——national low-cost missing persons detective service.

LLOYD SHULMAN, 213/380-2400
3325 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90010
——better known as the "legendary" Mr. Keane, tracer of missing persons; claims to find 9 out of 10 "lost souls"; charges a $600 finders fee.

WHITNEY INVESTIGATIONS, (Frank Military) 702/798-8447
P.O. Box 18000, Suite 212, Las Vegas, NV. 89114
——devotes 10% of time to those who cannot afford services; 10 years experience in missing persons cases.

* * * * * *

* claims to qualify under IRS tax exempt status.

THERE IS NO LIMIT TO WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IF ONE DOES NOT CARE WHO GETS CREDIT FOR IT!

* * * * * *

CRIME FREQUENCY

1.	*Larceny-theft*	*5,983,400*
2.	*Burglary*	*3,104,500*
3.	*Auto theft*	*991,600*
4.	*Aggravated assault*	*588,100*
5.	*Robbery*	*417,040*

ABDUCTIONS 75,000#

6.	*Rape*	*67,130*
7.	*Murder*	*19,510*

Source: 1981 WORLD ALMANAC

#Assuming that foul play is involved in only 15% of FBI's often quoted annual missing person rate of 500,000. (Other estimates are as high as 2,000,000).
YET THESE ARE NOT NOW OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE EVEN TO BE LISTED ON THE UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS!

The following questionnaire was mailed to the 100 largest plus 10 other selected cities in the United States on April 12, 1981. As of 6/1/81 only 3 responses were received.

Information covers the (   ) city or (   ) metropolitan area of ________

	Preteen	Teens	Adults	TOTAL
Open missing person cases at 12/31/79				
Cases reported during 1980				
Cases solved during 1980				
Voluntary returning				
Found alive				
Found dead (accident)				
Found dead (crime)				
Open missing person cases at 12/31/80				
Unidentified bodies at 12/31/79				
Found during 1980				
Identified during 1980				
On missing person list				
Not on missing person list				
Unidentified bodies at 12/31/80				

COMMENTS: ____

OMAHA wrote: *Reports of missing persons are recorded only on juveniles, (those persons under eighteen (18) of age) or adults (those persons eighteen (18) years or older).* Had 1,014 disappearances in 1980.

BALTIMORE wrote: *We have over 4,000 cases per year and do not keep records on them.*

HONOLULU reported 1,105 missing cases in 1980 with 206 open missing cases at 12/31/80, and 3 unidentified bodies identified from missing persons list during 1980 with 1 still unidentified.

WHAT IS NEEDED

FAMILY REUNION WEEK

. . . START a publicity campaign to promote a FAMILY REUNION WEEK, preferably the week beginning with Mother's Day.

. . . URGE

1. Everyone who has not contacted his/her family in the past year to make contact by letter, card, or telephone during this week.
2. Everyone who has questions about his/her early childhood to contact an ACTION agency.
3. Everyone who has amnesia to contact an ACTION agency.

. . . PROMOTE the use AT ANY TIME of the missing persons telephone numbers:
800/231-6946 (in Texas, 800/392-3352)
800/621-4000 (in Illinois, 800/972-6004)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

. . . To CHILDREN as a preventative/awareness program.

. . . To the FAMILY as a counseling program.

. . . To LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL to show the need to give such cases a higher priority.

. . . To THOSE WHO VOLUNTARILY DISAPPEAR to show the need to relay that fact EVEN IF HE/SHE WANTS TO KEEP HIS/HER WHEREABOUTS A SECRET.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

. . . CENTRAL CLEARINGHOUSE for data on all missing people and unidentified bodies WITH THE SAME AGENCY, with mandatory input from police/sheriff inputs.

. . . FBI JURISDICTION in all first time disappearances, unless, after a 24 hour evaluation period local officials uncover tangible evidence that no foul play was involved.

. . . MANDATORY FINGERPRINTING of everyone at birth.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON MISSING PEOPLE

What better way to get public awareness?

NOTHING THAT IS BEING ADVOCATED IS INTENDED TO BE AN ABANDONMENT of the "Right to Privacy". This only gives the possible means to identify a crime if one has been committed and to give the possibility of finding the criminal.

A few years ago the then editor of an Atlanta newspaper had a great obsession for "civil liberties". Then one day he was kidnapped and carried around northeast Georgia and southern South Carolina in a car trunk. A large reward was demanded. The kidnapper was caught, tried and convicted. But the sentence was set aside due to a technicality. The former editor now has an obsession for "justice".

MR. SENATOR OR MR. REPRESENTATIVE IF YOU THINK THE "RIGHT TO PRIVACY" SHOULD OVER SHADOW THE NEED FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATION IN MISSING PERSONS CASES, WOULD YOUR VIEWS CHANGE AS DID THOSE OF THE (FORMER) EDITOR IF YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER WAS THE ONE MISSING? PLEASE THINK ABOUT THAT.

We have a central clearinghouse for lost cars but not for lost people — CARS CAN BE REPLACED BUT NOT PEOPLE!

FOR EACH UNIDENTIFIED BODY THERE ALSO IS, SOMEWHERE, A MISSING PERSON.

FOR EACH AMNESIA VICTIM THERE ALSO IS, SOMEWHERE, A MISSING PERSON.

HOW LONG MUST IT TAKE FOR LAW MAKERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO REALIZE THAT FOR EACH MISSING PERSON THERE ALSO COULD BE, SOMEWHERE, AN UNIDENTIFIED BODY OR AN AMNESIA VICTIM?

DID YOU KNOW....

THAT Atlanta police officials did not take an interest in those cases until publicity developed?

THAT a South Dakota college student disappeared while driving across Ohio and was buried as an unidentified murder victim only 30 miles away because there was no means to match "missing" cases and "unidentified" cases?

THAT the FBI would not enter the case of a missing 12 year old Florida girl but did in the case of a missing horse because it was a race horse and had a "high value"?

THAT there is no difference between a missing persons report because of foul play and one for voluntary reasons yet police generally perceive it to be voluntary unless the family can prove otherwise?

THAT the husband of a missing Boston woman (who was an amnesia victim) was told to forget her because there were so many missing people?

THAT there is no difference between a missing persons report because of amnesia and one for voluntary reasons yet police generally perceive it to be voluntary unless the family can prove otherwise?

THAT there has been no known agency to advise, to counsel, and to help families of the missing and no national agency to coordinate information on the missing and the unidentified?

THAT THESE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE REASONS THESE "ACTION" AGENCIES WERE ORGANIZED?

* * * * * *

NO ONE KNOWS HOW MANY MISSING PERSONS THERE ARE!

The FBI does not know.
The U.S. Attorney General does not know.
The International Chiefs of Police does not know.
The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention does not know.
The Department of Justice and Criminal Planning does not know.
The various states do not obtain information from their counties.

YET THREE OUT OF FOUR REASONS FOR DISAPPEARANCES ARE BAD:

BAD

1. Foul Play.
2. Amnesia.
3. Accident.

NOT BAD

1. Voluntary – and this does not have "good" connotations

NOBODY KNOWS THE NUMBER **BUT**

The TV documentary "Runaway" claimed it to be 1,000,000 annually.
NBC in its 1979 Series "The Runaways" claimed it to be 2,000,000 annually.

EVEN IF 85% DOES NOT FALL INTO THE "FOUL PLAY" CLASSIFICATION MISSING PERSONS REPORTS WOULD STILL FORETELL THE SIXTH LARGEST CRIME!

* * * * * *

MULTIPLE MURDER/MISSING CASES

40	GALVESTON/HOUSTON 21 bodies found/19 similar cases still missing; females.	1971-74 UNSOLVED
39+	TALLAHASSEE & LAKE CITY, FL; CO; UT; OR; 3 convictions/FL; prime suspect in 36 multi-state murders; killer admits to over 100 murders.	1974-78 Killer: THEODORE BUNDY, 31 *Death Row/FL--Feb 80
35	DES PLAINS, IL. 28 victims were found in crawl space under his house, 3 in his garage, and 4 in a nearby river.	1972-78 Killer: JOHN WAYNE GACY, 32 *Death Row/IL--May 80
28+	ATLANTA, GA. 27 bodies found/1 similar case still missing; all black and all but 2 were male; at least 10 others not listed.	1979-81 UNSOLVED
27	HOUSTON, TX. The discovery of these cases caused Texas Governor to set up OPERATION PEACE OF MIND - 800/231-6946.	1971-72 Killer: WAYNE HALEY, JR.
14+	LOS ANGELES (Freeway Killer victims/male); most were young, white; many sexually mutilated; all dumped beside or near freeways.	1979-80 Killers: WILLIAM BONIN, 33; VERNON BUTTS, 22 convicted Jul 80 not yet sentenced.

12	LOS ANGELES (Hillside Strangler victims); females, all raped, strangled, and tossed onto hillsides -- nude.	1977-78 Killers: ANGELO BUONO, 45; trial still pending; KENNETH BIANCHI, 20, life sentence -- Oct 79
7	DETROIT (Snow Killer victims); male, females, killer usually struck after a snowfall	1976-77 UNSOLVED
6	MORGAN CITY, LA. 3 found murdered, 3 still missing; suspect killed himself during capture in WA	Mar-May 1978 Suspect: CARL HOHENBERGER
5	TORRANCE, CA. 5 teenage girls raped, tortured, murdered	1979 Killer: LAWRENCE BITTAKER, 40; *Death Row/CA--Mar 81
5	NEWARK, NJ 5 young boys left playground, no one has seen either since.	1975 UNSOLVED
5	CHICAGO 5 missing cases solved by visions of psychic Irene Hughes.	1968 Killer: WILLIAM WATSON
4+	WEEKI WACHEE, FL. Skeletons dug up on suspect's property; 2 identified from missing persons list.	1975-80 Suspect: BILLY MANSFIELD, 25

*BUT STILL ALIVE.

* * * * * *

EXCEPT FOR THE VERY YOUNG a disappearance is generally perceived by the public, news media, and law enforcement personnel to be a runaway (the Atlanta Special Task Force considered one victim a runaway right up to the time his body was pulled out of the river). If the person is an adult the "Right To Privacy Act" is the shield behind which officials hide to justify inactivity.

YET

If there were annually 2,000,000 suspected cases of pneumonia (or diphtheria or cholera OR ANYTHING ELSE) with 75,000 possible deaths there would be no limit to the public concern or the amount of aid (federal, state, and local) that would be forthcoming to solve the "epidemic".

The American way gives the adult the "right to privacy", but not the right to be killed with no one showing concern. It does not give the teens the right to be sexually exploited or to be entrapped into drug pushing. It does not give the very young the right to be kidnapped or snatched away from the legal guardian.

If a missing case is investigated and the person is found alive, what has been lost? ONLY SOME MANPOWER. *If a missing case is not investigated and the person is found dead, what has been gained?* ONLY THE POSSIBLE FREEDOM OF THE KILLER.

* * * * * *

WHAT TO DO

If a person disappears from your family unit the earlier this can be ascertained and an investigation be started, the better the chance for success in locating him/her. Too often no report is made in the early stages when the chances of finding a clue is the highest. The following are things to be done:

1. File a missing persons report IMMEDIATELY with local police or sheriff. Be truthful. This may mean taking a critical self-analysis of family conflicts and/or relationships. Too often the authorities are handicapped in giving assistance because they are not aware of all the circumstances leading up to the disappearance.

2. Ask authorities to register data with NCIC.

3. Stay in close touch with the authorities. Insist they FOLLOW UP on ALL leads. But do not take up their time (which would hinder their search) by being a "pest".

4. Offer a reward and distribute posters with photo / description / contact telephone and/or address. It would do little good to advertise if no means of reporting is listed.

5. Check Social Security records. This may have to be done by your Senator or Representative.
6. Check with the FBI. This probably will not do any good until new laws are passed.
7. Check with your State Bureau of Investigation. This may have to be done by your police/sheriff.
8. Check with State Department, Washington, DC, for possible passport data.
9. File a missing persons report with the Salvation Army.
10. File a missing persons report with the Red Cross.
11. Start a scrapbook. It is a good source to inform yourself constantly as to what others have done.
12. Keep a pencil and paper by the telephone to record information, if any comes. If possible, have a tape recorder handy to record messages.
13. GET AS MUCH PUBLICITY AS YOU CAN. If the missing person is alive some such publicity may reach him/her.
14. Check area morgues and hospitals for unidentified persons and/or bodies.
15. Check with so-called religious cults.
16. Get listed in SEARCH and, if appropriate, CHILD FIND and/or RETURN OUR CHILDREN. (see agency listings for address)
17. Send detail to ACTION agency which more nearly matches your case.
18. Check out all ideas or suspicions. DO NOT RULE OUT ANYTHING EVEN IF IT APPEARS "OUT OF CHARACTER"; the mere fact the person is missing (if no foul play) is usually "out of character".
19. Check with each state's motor vehicle registration department (if a car is involved). If your city or county is a member of the computer service this can be done almost instantaneously. If not, you would need to write to the Motor Vehicle Registration Department of each state.
20. Check with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (if a dependent child has been abandoned).

21. Insist on FOLLOW-UP surveillance of suspects whenever warranted.
22. Check with ACTION agencies of your choice for additional assistance.
23. REPORT UNCOOPERATIVE and NEGLIGENT POLICE/SHERIFF to a higher authority or to any ACTION agency listed herein.
24. Send detail with photo to Missing Persons Bureau, Bergen County NJ, 1 Court Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601.
25. If you use a private detective be careful to obtain a reputable one. Too many times some are more interested in your money than in your problem. YOU COULD BE "TAKEN" FOR ALL YOUR MONEY with no results.

* * * * * *

THE MANY FACETS OF THE MISSING SYNDROME

There are many facets of the missing syndrome and the solutions are as diverse as the facets.

KIDNAPPING

We need FBI involvement even when no reward is demanded. Too often a kidnapping is done for reasons other than a reward.

CHILD SNATCHING

We need for each state to honor the original state's determination. Too often one parent has jurisdiction in one state and the other parent has jurisdiction in another state. The child, then, becomes a victim of jurisdictional fighting.

TEENS ENTRAPPED INTO PROSTITUTION/DRUG PUSHING

Again, the need for FBI involvement.

VOLUNTARY

Here we only need to remove any question of foul play, etc., so that the person can freely exercise his/her "right to privacy".

PUBLICATIONS

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS DEAL WITH THE MISSING PERSONS SYNDROME:

ADOLESCENT LIFE STRESS AS A PREDICTOR OF ALCOHOL ABUSE AND/OR RUNAWAY BEHAVIOR
National Youth Work Alliance, 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington DC 20036
$ 6.50

AMERICA'S RUNAWAYS (by Christine Chapman)
William Morrow & Co., 105 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 – $ 9.95

AMONG THE MISSING: AN ANECDOTAL HISTORY OF MISSING PERSONS FROM 1800 TO PRESENT (by Jay R. Nash)
Simon & Schuster, 1230 6th Ave., New York, NY 10020 – $ 14.95

DAWN: PORTRAIT OF A TEENAGE RUNAWAY
Ballantine Books, 201 E 50th St., New York, NY 10022 – $ 1.50

KIDS ON THE RUN: THE STORIES OF SEVEN TEENAGE RUNAWAYS (by James R. Berry)
Four Winds Press, 50 West 44th St., New York, NY 10036 – $ 5.95

KYLE'S STORY: FRIDAY NEVER CAME, THE SEARCH FOR MISSING PEOPLE (by John Dixon Clinkscales)
Vantage Press, 516 West 34th St., New York, NY 10001 – $ 9.95

MINNESOTA CONNECTION (by Rev. Al Palmquist with John Stone)
Bible Voice Books, P.O. Box 7491, Van Nuys, CA 91409 – $ 1.95

MISSING PERSONS (by Robert Cox)
Stackpole Books, Box 1831, Harrisburg, PA 17105 – $ 8.95

MISSING: STORIES OF STRANGE DISAPPEARANCES (by David Cohen)
Dodd, Mead & Co., 79 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 – $ 5.95

MISSING PERSONS LOCATING AND SKIP TRACING (by Sidney B. Schulman)
Sentry Investigations, P.O. Box 502, Canoia Park, CA 91305 – $ 29.95

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES (by David Cohen)
Dodd, Mead & Co., 79 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 – $ 5.95

NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF RUNAWAY PROGRAMS
National Youth Work Alliance, 1346 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington DC 20036–$ 5.00

OUR RUNAWAY (by L. Weinberry Williams)
Judson Press, Valley Forge, PA 19481 – $ 2.95

PROBLEMS OF RUNAWAY YOUTHS (by John C. Cull & Richard E. Hardy)
C. C. Thomas – $ 13.95

RUNAWAYS (by Lilliam Ambrosino)
Beacon Press, 25 Beacon St., Boxton, MA 01005 – $ 6.95

RUNAWAYS (by Anna Kosof with introduction by Senator Birch Bayh)
Franklin Watts, 730 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10019 – $ 2.00

RUNAWAYS – THROWAWAYS (by Bill McKee)
Good Life Publications, 7901 E. Pierce St., Scottsdale, AZ 85257 – $ 4.95

STILL MISSING (by Ken Wooden)
No other information received

STOLEN CHILDREN (by John Gill)
No other information received

TEENAGE RUNAWAY (by John Benton)
Fleming H. Revell Co., Central Ave., Old Tappan, NJ 07675 – $ 1.50

THE RUNAWAYS: CHILDREN, HUSBANDS, WIVES & PARENTS (by Marion Benton)
Little, Brown & Co., Inc., 34 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02106 – $ 8.95
Penquin, New Orleans, LA – $ 2.95

THE RUNAWAY RESPONSE SYSTEM: A TEAM APPROACH TO BRIEF FAMILY THERAPY (by Richard Carson, Raymond Rivera, and David Stewart)
Youth in Crisis, Inc., 6737 West 34th St., Berwyn, IL – $ 2.00

THE SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF RUNAWAYS (by Tim Brennan)
Lexington Books – $ 24.95

THE YOUNGEST OUTLAWS: RUNAWAYS IN AMERICA (by Arnold P. Rubin)
Julian Messner, 1230 Ave. of Americas, New York, NY 10020 – $ 6.29

THIRTEEN WHO VANISHED: TRUE STORIES OF MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES
Julian Messner, 1230 Ave. of Americas, New York, NY 10020 – $ 5.95

The following is not copywrited. Anyone is requested to use it to inform the general public about the MISSING PERSONS PHENOMENON.

FIND-ME, INC.
P. O. Box 1612
LaGrange, GA. 30241

DEPARTURES
GATES 8-12

+ +

NO ONE CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE

A 22 year old college student disappeared in Ohio enroute to his home in South Dakota from his college in Virginia. A 22 year old college ministerial student disappeared in Alabama enroute from his church in southeastern Alabama to his college in Birmingham. A 29 year old construction employee disappeared in Atlanta, GA, enroute from her office to a construction site. A 29 year old security company employee disappeared in Scottsdale, AZ.

With no other information, except that $1,000,000 also disappeared at the same time from the security company, which of the above cases should law enforcement personnel be concerned with? That's easy: only with the disappearance of the security employee. After all, isn't this America? And don't we pride ourselves in being the land of the free - the land where adults can move around at will, being accountable to no one for their whereabouts? We have even passed a "Right to Privacy Act" to assure complete privacy even concerning availability of information about us. Because the disappearance of the security employee "probably related" to the disappearance of a large sum of money, law enforcement personnel certainly should be concerned about THAT case. Why don't you ask me a hard question?

Now suppose that I tell you that one of the other three was murdered, one was abducted, and one voluntarily disappeared. Which, then, should law enforcement personnel be concerned with? The answer is still easy: law enforcement personnel should be concerned with the one who was murdered and the one who was abducted, but not the one who voluntarily disappeared. Still why don't you ask me a hard question?

"O.K. Which is which?" "What are you trying to do, confuse me? How can I tell which is which? You haven't given me enough information!"

Therein lies the dilemma of the missing persons syndrome: *NO ONE CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE in a missing persons report because of foul play from one for voluntary reason. However, the perception is usually the same as the first answer:* There should be no involvement by law enforcement personnel. The case of the security guard is different - we assume that money was involved. And we know that all available laws should be invoked to protect property rights. But what about civil rights? *Wouldn't you hate to be drowning in a pool across the street from a bank being robbed with the town's only policeman standing in the middle of the street trying to decide how to devote his time?*

These three cases are not isolated cases. Similar cases happen almost daily throughout the United States. No one knows how many times. There are no records kept on the number of disappearances nor the solutions, if any. The Uniform Crime Report does not even have a space for the information.

Because we know the solution to the above three cases we can tell what should have been done. But because we do not know which is which until we obtain the solution, ALL first time missing cases should be of concern to law enforcement personnel.

Additional information was available in the case of the 22 year old college student in Ohio. His luggage was found alongside a road. The contents were intact except for a tape recorder which was missing. HIS PARENTS WERE ADVISED THAT THE FINDING OF THE LUGGAGE DID NOT CONSTITUTE EVIDENCE THAT FOUL PLAY HAD OCCURRED, stating that he probably wanted to establish a new identity and there was no legal basis for law enforcement involvement.

Four months after the luggage was found a nearby farmer discovered a badly decomposed body with no identification. For four weeks the body lie in a morgue unclaimed, thirty miles from the site of the discovery of the luggage. As his family could not afford the services of a private detective, a church in his community raised $500 fot this purpose.

Three weeks after the burial the detective started on the case. Within a week, merely by placing telephone calls to morgues in the vicinity of the disappearance, the detective learned that the missing student was the unidentified body. *If the church had not raised the money for the detective, the boy's parents would have never knowh what happened to him.* There was no mechanism for matching unidentified bodies and missing persons reports even though they were separated by only thirty miles and four months!

Three days after the disappearance of the construction company employee she called her husband from Tennessee saying that she had been abducted. The FBI immediately took over the jurisdiction of the case. After two days of investigation the FBI withdrew from the case stating that, as they did not have enough information for conviction, the case was being returned to local officials for handling.

In the case of the 22 year old ministerial student there was no search for him nor other effort expended to find out what happened. Such cases as these the burden of search usually falls upon the parents. As his parents were not financially able to devote funds to the search all they could do was to hope and pray.....Someone who knew him called his parents and told them their son was working in Louisiana. A call to the personnel office of that firm confirmed that someone by that name was working there. Other telephone calls eventually lead to reestablishing contact. After seven weeks a letter was received by his parents, written as if he had just been gone a couple of weeks. But it had been 12 years; he was now 34 years old!

His being found alive gives strength to the assumption that a missing persons case, especially that of a legal adult, should be of no concern to law enforcement personnel. The fact that many cases, such as the other two mentioned above, are "missing" cases because some federal or state law had been violated seems to be ignored by the same people whose duty is to search out and apprehend law violators.

The above cases are good illustrations of the complexity of the MISSING PERSONS SYNDROME. Because a large number of cases have successful conclusions the usual perception of the general public is that ALL cases have successful conclusions. Yet what little is known about the phenomenon indicates that of the youths who disappear and do not return within a short period of time most are either found dead or never heard from again. *(If only 15% of the missing persons reports fell into this category, these reports would still foretell the sixth largest crime!)*

No one knows how many people disappear each year; estimates range from half million to two million. If missing persons was a disease with 75,000 suspected deaths annually (15% of lowest estimate), just think what the public outcry would be! Legislation would be passed to disregard the "Right to Privacy" and to require immunization. *Why is this not also done in missing persons cases?* The answer is that the public is not aware of the problem. The public does not become concerned with it until such cases as Houston's Halley cases, Chicago's Gacey cases, and Atlanta's missing and murdered children cases occur. The concern flares up, and then dies down.

All the following missing persons reports basically read: "*(Name) last seen at (various places) on (various times and dates)*" with little other information. When the reports were filed NO ONE COULD TELL THE DIFFERENCE from those for voluntary reasons and those with foul play involved. This list of 24 (half have been solved) represent ONLY A FRACTION of those that are filed daily. Read this list and test your ability to determine the answers - which were voluntary and which were not. (Known answers are at end of this article).

1- KENNETH BARNES, 18 from Augusta, GA, after being in army 5 months.
2- ROBIN JEAN BASSETT, 13, enroute to a store in Tucson, AZ.
3- NANCY CAMPBELL, 25, going across Atlanta following boy friend.
4- KYLE CLINKSCALES, 22, enroute from LaGrange, GA, to Auburn University, 40 miles away.
5- DALLAS EGBERT, 17, from Michigan State University.
6- HELEN HANKS, 35, from an office in Valdosta, GA.
7- BRUCE JANOFF, professor at Emory University, Atlanta, GA.
8- KAY KENDERDINE, 23, from a street in Dallas, TX.
9- JOHN LAWSON, 20, enroute from Stanford (CA) University to Chicago.
10- JACKIE LERMAN, 24, from home in Rockaway Beach, NY.

11- BRUCE LONG, 23, on a business trip from Salt Lake City, UT.
12- YUNG PARK, 51, while in Savannah, GA, on a business trip.
13- DAVID PATILLO, 22, enroute from Indiana to Fresno, CA.
14- FLORENCE PERMENTER, from home in Wichita, KS.
15- DONALD ROBERTS, Eagle, ID, on a hunting trip.
16- JAN SCHOECHLE, 22, on a New Years Even from Virginia Tech.
17- BOBO SHINN, 25, Magnolia, AR, going to show a house for sale.
18- BRIAN SMITH, 20, enroute to home from Troy State (AL) University.
19- IAN SMART, 18, from home in Lynwood, WA.
20- CINDY STEWART, 20, Columbus, GA, left for Panama City, FL.
21- ROBERT STOERNER, 34, Houston, TX, following a one car accident.
22- ROBERT WALDEN, 20, Framingham, MA, after leaving a college party.
23- GREG WILLIAMS, Scottsdale, AZ., from home.
24- RANDY WOODS, 17, after withdrawing $3,000 from Indianapolis bank.

There are many facets to the MISSING PERSONS SYNDROME. However, these generally fall into the following broad categories:

ABDUCTIONS of the very young for own purposes or to sell into illegal adoption channels.
BRAIN WASHING by so called religious cults.
CHILD SNATCHING by one divorced (or separated) parent from the other who has custody and taking the child to an unknown location.
TEENS ENTRAPPED INTO PROSTITUTION/DRUG PUSHING and they cannot or will not keep contact with family.
VOLUNTARY
  With Reason - teens running away from intoleragle home conditions or adults escaping broken marriages, etc.
  Without Reason

When someone disappears, just as when someone commits suicide, a common comment is made quite often - "I would have never thought that." Many of the times the reason is the result of stress. And stress is something that is hard to detect. Mental disorders can be observed the same as physical handicaps. But stress is something that we usually cannot see. When stress takes over - from real or imaginary reasons - rational things become irrational and irrational things become rational. So when a person who is controlled by stress commits suicide he/she is doing what is percieved to be a rational act. Disappearing sometimes becomes a viable alternate to suicide.

There are three basic solutions to the MISSING PERSONS SYNDROME:

1- Involvement of law enforcement agencies in ALL first time missing cases unless it is ascertained that NO foul play was involved. This can usually be done only by making contact with the missing person.

2- The study by various social agencies of the causes of the problems resulting in voluntary disappearances "with reason" so that conditions may be recognized and corrected without having to resort to such measures. Such is now being done but only as the conditons relate to suicide.

3- With law enforcement agencies assuming the responsibility of pursuing missing cases to a satisfactory solution (apprehending the violator or determining that no law was violated) the ACTION agencies can devote all their resources to trying to reach the missing with publicity and to counselling families who have some one missing.

+ +

Support a

FAMILY REUNION WEEK

FIND-ME believes that many who have voluntarily disappeared with reason or without reason want to reestablish contact but are reluctant to do so. The week of Thanksgiving has already been designated as NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK "to get everyone to set aside time for families to do things together".

THERE IS A MUCH GREATER NEED FOR FAMILIES TO REESTABLISH CONTACT WITH MEMBERS WHO HAVE BROKEN CONTACT WITH THE FAMILY - FOR WHATEVER REASON, DISAPPEARANCE, INDIFFERENCE, FAMILY DISAGREEMENTS - THAN IT IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BROKEN CONTACT TO "do things together".

Therefore, FIND-ME is asking for support in trying to get the week beginning with MOTHER'S DAY to be designated as FAMILY REUNION WEEK to urge everyone who has not had contact with their family to write, call, or send a card

ANSWERS TO SOLVED CASES

CASE 1. Labeled as a deserter by Army. His car had been found but that "did not give evidence of foul play". Another car had crashed and burned at same time. 9 years later, based on a tip, the person believed to have died in the crash was located in FL. This person has now been convicted of insurance fraud and murder. The body is now identified as Kenneth.

CASE 3. 8 months later a fisherman discovered her car in Chattahoochee River. Car had skidded on a curve on rain soaked street, taking her to death in river.

CASE 5. Located in 2 months by detectives hired by parents. One year to day from his disappearance he died as result of suicide.

CASE 6. 9 years later a box containing her remains was accidently found in a field being plowed. A leading Valdosta business man was charged with her murder.

CASE 7. Voluntarily returned 6 months later. Says he is rather embarrased by the venture and would like to get the experience behind him.

CASE 8. Had no identification on her when she was killed in a traffic accident. Lay in Dallas morgue for 87 days while her parents spent $40,000 trying to find her.

CASE 9. Fictional name of actual event. Located by his parents 7 months later. Mother says he has changed, "some for good, some for bad". No longer in college. Has a "7 day week" job in Chicago.

CASE 12. 3 months later a body in Florida that had been unidentified since 10 days after his disappearance was identified as being him. Some one now has been charged with murder.

CASE 14. 14 years later, acting on a tip, her body was discovered buried in her back yard. Her husband was charged with murder. Such tips were ignored when she disappeared.

CASE 15. Hurt his back and had to stay on a ledge for 3 months. Lived on freeze dried food he had cached away; survived in a sleeping bag with temperatures as much as 60° below zero. Search was discontinued and he was declared legally dead because "no one could survive in such adverse weather conditions".

CASE 20. 4 months later a hunter in Pasco County, FL, discovered her remains. Person she left with was charged with murder.

CASE 22. A month later his body was found in a river. During that time his parents had spent $30,000 trying to find him.

Other cases are unsolved. In CASE #2 the Tucson Police "laughed at" her mother when she claimed that Robin Jean had been abducted! The father in CASE #4 was told by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation that Kyle's civil rights would be violated if a search was made for him!

7/81

Mitch McConnell, County Judge/Executive
JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR HUMAN SERVICES
Jeanne B. Frank, A.C.S.W., Secretary

Division for Juvenile Justice Services
Joseph P. Tolan, A.C.S.W., Deputy
216 South Fifth Street · Louisville, Kentucky 40202 · 502/581-6129

D.H.S. EXPLOITED CHILD UNIT

John B. Rabun, ACSW, Manager
701 W. Jefferson Street · Louisville, Kentucky 40202

ROLE & MISSION:

The DHS Exploited Child Unit exists (1.) to detect, identify, and investigate cases of children in Jefferson County who are at-risk of being or actually are victimized by adults in child prostitution and/or child pornography, and (2.) to assist the appropriate law enforcement agency in its criminal investigation of such adult sexual exploitation of children.

The E.C.U. does NOT accept social casework responsibility for the child but functions only as a fact-finding, support service. The E.C.U. does NOT accept referrals of child abuse or neglect, but does accept referrals of child-victims of sexual exploitation usually where there is suspected commercial involvement and where the parties are extra-family.

PROVISO:

In NO case will information received from a youth-client be used for the purpose of prosecuting said youth-client. (KRS 208.340)

In accomplishing its role and mission, the E.C.U. develops, coordinates, and organizes case referrals and intelligence information to ensure flow of case information to appropriate DHS personnel involved in and responsible for the child's case before Juvenile Court. The E.C.U. coordinates its efforts with other agencies and provides the social work component of the Police/Social Work Team with local, state, and federal law enforcement efforts concerning sexually exploited child cases.

The E.C.U. further provides the screening and appropriate referrals of all calls to the INFORMATION LINE (588-2199) of the Jefferson County Task Force on Child Prostitution and Pornography. A research component is coordinated by E.C.U. to identify psycho-social indicators of the child-victims of sexual exploitation and to better enable brokering of services for these children. The E.C.U. actively provides community education and training.

The DHS Exploited Child Unit appreciates your interest in these children in Jefferson County who are being victimized by adults in child prostitution and/or child pornography. If the E.C.U. can assist you in any way, please call us at (502) 581-5787 or (502) 588-2199 (24-hour), or come by our office located on the 4th floor of the Civic Plaza Building (701 West Jefferson Street, 40202) in the offices of the Louisville-Jefferson County Criminal Justice Commission.

TASK FORCE ON
CHILD PROSTITUTION AND PORNOGRAPHY
4th Floor, Civic Plaza Bldg.
701 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 587-3621
D.H.S. EXPLOITED CHILD UNIT
(502) 581-5787/588-2199

MITCH McCONNELL
COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

ERNEST E. ALLEN
Chairman
RONALD J. PREGLIASCO
Vice-Chairman

8/13/81

DEPT. FOR HUMAN SERVICES
Jeanne Frank, Secretary
Joe Tolan, Deputy
JEFFERSON COUNTY POLICE DEPT.
Col. E.G. Helm, Chief
Capt. James Black, Intelligence
Sgt. Bob Mathena, Youth Bureau
LOUISVILLE DIVISION OF POLICE
Lt. John Aubrey
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Special Agent in Charge,
James Yelvington
Agent Dave Clark
KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
Sgt. Rhea Morgan
U.S. POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE
Ted Eklund, Postal Inspector
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY
David L. Armstrong
Dee Pregliasco, Asst.
COUNTY ATTORNEY
J. Bruce Miller
Don Kethro, Asst.
LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
Bob Benson, Chairman
POLICE/SOCIAL WORK TEAM
DHS EXPLOITED CHILD UNIT
John B. Rabun, Manager
Margarete Sanders
Ellen Hammock
POLICE MEMBERS
Det. Bob Hain, LDP
Det. Gary Smith, JCPD
Det. Rick Dillman, LDP

Research Consultant:
Dr. Ron Holmes, Prof.
(Univ. of Lou., School
of Justice Administration)

RESEARCH from

Initial/Exploratory Interview Schedules

as administered by DHS Residential Services
and DHS Exploited Child Unit staff, 3/81-7/81.

N = 190	RUNAWAY Emphasis
Males = 105 (55%)	Runaways = 149 (78%)
Females = 85 (45%)	Non-Run. = 41 (22%)

Average age for N = 16 years
Average age for Runaways = 16 years 2 months

Admitting Prostitution = 63 (33%)
Not Admit. Prostitution = 127 (67%)
NO difference for Runaways.

Average Charge for Prostitution = $17.37. NO difference for Runaways.

Admitting Pornography = 25 (13%)
Not Admit. Pornography = 161 (87%)
NO difference for Runaways.

Average Age of 1st Sex = 12 years 2 months. NO difference for Runaways.

Sexual Orientation of Child:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
Hetero-	135 (91%)	36 (88%)
Homo-	8 (6%)	4 (10%)
Bi-	2 (1%)	1 (2%)
Trans-	3 (2%)	0 (0%)

NO difference for Runaways.

NO differences between Runaways/Non-Runaways for Kind of drugs used nor for Frequency of drug use with most frequent drugs used being speed/uppers and grass.

Drug Use:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
NO	14 (9%)	14 (34%)
YES	135(91%)	27 (66%)

Age of 1st Drug Use:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
5 yr.	1 (1%)	0 (0%)
8 yr.	4 (3%)	0 (0%)
9 yr.	3 (2%)	0 (0%)
10 yr.	13 (9%)	3 (7%)
11 yr.	15 (10%)	4 (9%)
12 yr.	35 (24%)	6 (15%)
13 yr.	31 (21%)	5 (12%)
14 yr.	19 (13%)	4 (10%)
15 yr.	13 (9%)	2 (5%)
16 yr.	2 (1%)	2 (5%)
17 yr.	0 (0%)	1 (2%)

RESEARCH from Initial/Exploratory Interview Schedules (3/81-7/81)
RUNAWAY Emphasis - 8/13/81

N = 190 Runaways = 149 (78%) Males = 105 (55%)
Non-Run. = 41 (22%) Females = 85 (45%)

Relationships with Parents:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
Close	39%	50%
Aloof	15%	19%
Hostile	11%	14%
Rejecting	12%	15%

Marital Status of Parents:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
Married	27 (18%)	8 (20%)
Separated	14 (9%)	7 (17%)
Divorced	66 (44%)	10 (24%)
Remarried	6 (4%)	2 (5%)
Widowed	19 (13%)	6 (15%)
Never Married	16 (11%)	8 (20%)

Places Runaways Go:

Friends	57%	
Relations	17%	
Shelters	2%	(Nationally: 5%)
Adult Friend	17%	
"Pimp"	1%	
On Move	3%	

Frequency of Drug Use:

	Runaways	Non-Runaways
No Use	10%	37%
Daily	24%	12%
Weekly	42%	34%
Monthly	12%	5%
Less	12%	12%

In Search of
Of Our Children—
Our Parents

(A Directory of Missing Persons)

September 1981

I know somehow there is a way...
All this love I have for you
Will bring us together again someday;
All our love will bring us through.

Your reflections in many things I see,
Familiar surroundings in all the places.
It's really very tough for mommy,
'Cause everywhere, I see your faces.

But even when I lose all hope,
Something keeps me hanging on,
Though, seems like it's the ended rope,
This love of mine is much too strong.

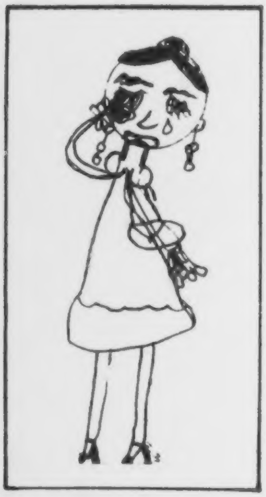
We'll be together again sometime,
and everything will be all right.
So, for now I'll try to stop this cryin'
And try and make it through one more night.

Well, Julie, take care of Michelle;
I know the Lord is with you now;
Wherever you are, I wish you well,
Please... try and remember mommy somehow.

I love you,

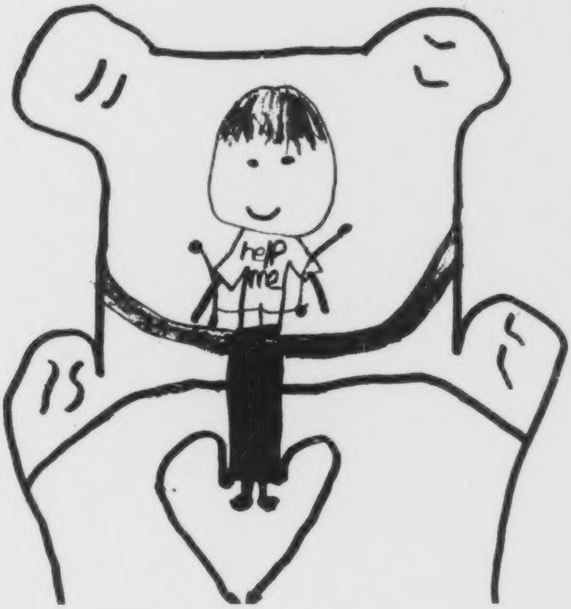
signed Mommy

(sent to Child Find unsolicited, by Christie Olson)



Six-year-old girl's concept of a
Searching Parent

- unsolicited



Six-year-old girl's concept of an Abducted Child being whisked away in an automobile (notice the fastened seatbelt!)

- unsolicited

Somewhere in our country there is a loving, caring, grieving parent searching for an abducted child. The chances are 90% against parent and child ever seeing each other again. Our country is simply too vast, too filled with places to hide, to make it possible for children and parents to find each other.

The consequences of child abduction on children range from moderate to severe reticence and mistrust to full-scale physical and emotional abuse. Abducted children are frequently physically abused children.

The American Bar Association last year agreed that child-snatching is not an act of love. It is clearly recognized to be an act of revenge committed by one adult in order to emotionally injure another.

The majority of child-abductors are emotionally unstable. More than 50% of abductors have prior police records. More than 60% of abducted children are physically, mentally and sexually abused or abandoned by the abductor. (There are, however, cases when parents flee with their children from intolerable violence in the home.)

The abductor is usually "on the run." The child learns quickly not to make friends because it is too painful to say "good-bye." He is forced to parrot stories ("My mother was killed in a car accident.") which he rarely believes. The abducted child rarely reveals to adults his troubled thoughts and questions. He reasons: Why try? No one will believe me anyway, and nobody really cares. And harsh punishment would befall him should the restraining parent (or stranger abductor) find out he'd talked.

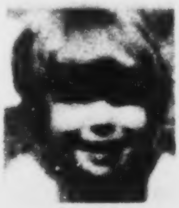
We ask those who may know the whereabouts of any of the children in this Directory to call Child Find (914 255-1848) or complete and mail us the identification form provided in the back. All information is completely confidential.

You may recognize a possible victim of child-abduction if you observe that the child (1) has dyed hair; (2) is socially and verbally withdrawn; (3) makes comments that do not quite parallel what the parent has told you; (4) has moved around too often - A parent on the run moves approximately every three to six months! (5) has excessive bruises, burns or other signs of physical abuse; (6) appears malnourished; (7) expresses unusual hostility towards a parent he does not live with (brainwashing).

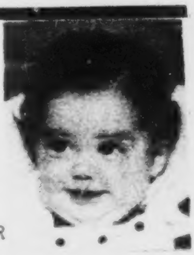
IT IS RARE IN THE LIFE OF AN ORDINARY PERSON THAT HE OR SHE IS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF ANOTHER. A FEW OF YOU WHO READ THIS DIRECTORY WILL HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY.

MAY YOU USE IT WISELY.

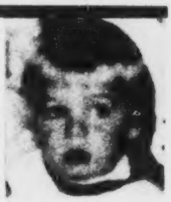
File No.



1501 CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH CHIOSIE (Beau)
DOB: 10/5/76 (5 years old)
Brown hair, brown eyes, left-handed
Abducted October 28, 1979 from Orange Co., N.Y. by mother (caucasian, dark brown hair, blue eyes, 28 years old, 5') along with sister SHERI
warrants issued



1501 SHERI LYNN CHIOSI
DOB: 2/9/79 (2½ years old)
Brown hair, brown eyes
Abducted October 28, 1979 from Orange Co., N.Y. by mother (caucasian, dark brown hair, blue eyes, 28 years old, 5') along with brother CHRISTOPHER
warrants issued



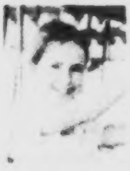
1502 TODD RICHARD LEPES (Toddie)
DOB: 10/21/76 (5 years old)
Blond hair, blue eyes; birthmark on inside thigh of right leg
Abducted January 7, 1979 from Sussex Co., N.J. by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 29 years old, 5'2")
warrants issued

Please be aware that many of the photographs of the children in this Directory were taken before their abduction. When considering the identification of a child, allow for normal growth and change.

Published September 1981

File
No.

1503



JOANNA HARRIET PIERCE

DOB: 12/29/68 (13 years old)

Honey hair, blue eyes, small oval birthmark on left buttock

Abducted December 20, 1974 from Ulster Co., N.Y. by father (caucasian, salt-and-pepper hair (implant on top) light blue eyes, 63 years old, 5'11")

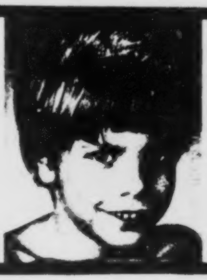
felony warrant issued

1504 ETAN PATZ

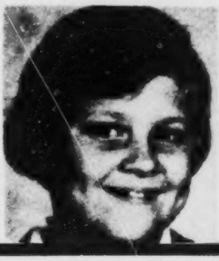
DOB: 10/9/72 (9 years old)

Blond hair, blue eyes

Disappeared from Soho, NYC on his way to the school bus stop on May 25, 1979



1507



ANDRE BOUVIER JENNINGS

DOB: 11/18/68 (13 years old)

Blond hair, hazel brown eyes
Scar under right eye from dog bite

Abducted May 1980 from Bronx, N.Y. by babysitter

listed with Missing Persons

All identification information furnished CHILD FIND will be handled discreetly and confidentially. Please use the Identification Form at the end of this Directory or call (914) 255-1848 if you believe you know the whereabouts of one of these children.

File
No.

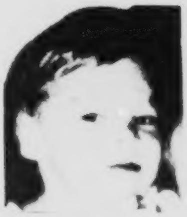
1508 DEREK JAY SCHULZE

DOB: 5/16/77 (5½ years old)

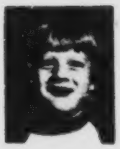
Red (orange) hair, brown eyes, Birthmark on leg

Abducted February 1980 from Cameron Co., Texas, by father (caucasian, carrot red hair, blue eyes, 29 years old, 5'10")

warrants issued



1509



JOHN HERMAN MC EUEN

DOB: 11/29/74 (7 years old)

strawberry blond hair, blue eyes, freckles, faint scar on forehead

Abducted November 24, 1979 from Harris Co., Texas, by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, frecle, long scar on lower back, 30 years old, 5'10")

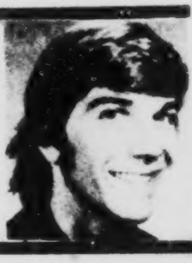
warrants issued

1510 KYLE WADE CLINKSCALES

DOB: 10/2/53 (27 years old)

Sandy hair, hazel eyes

Disappeared January 27, 1976 from Troup Co., Georgia

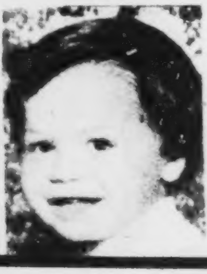


Please keep in mind that children grow and change, also names, hair color and even eye color (contact lenses) can be altered.

Published September 1981

File
No.

1512



ERIK GARCIA

DOB: 2/19/78 (3 years old)

Brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted May 1980 from Los Angeles Co., California, by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 30 years old, 5'1")

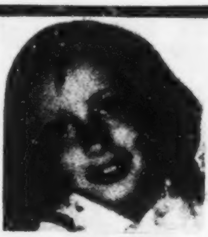
1513 CECILIE RINA FINKELSTEIN (SARAH)

DOB: 2/11/70 (11½ years old)

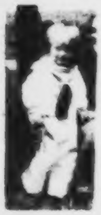
blond hair(rather thin), blue eyes, Norwegian

Abducted April 1974 from Oslo, Norway by father (salt-and-pepper hair, greenish blue eyes, caucasian, approximately 50 years old, 175cm)

felony warrant issued from NYC



1514



AUSTIN SCOTT EMERSON

DOB: 7/10/78 (3 years old)

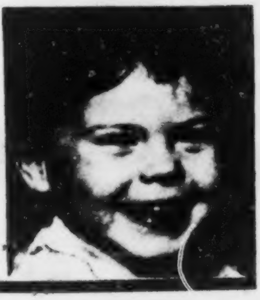
Blond hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, distinct dimples when he smiles

Abducted September 21, 1980 from Haywood, N.C. by father(caucasian, dark brown hair, brownish green eyes, 24 years old, 6'2")

If you believe you know the whereabouts of any of these children, call CHILD FIND at (914) 255-1848 or use the Identification Form at the end of this Directory. All information is handled discreetly and confidentially.

Published September 1981

File
No.

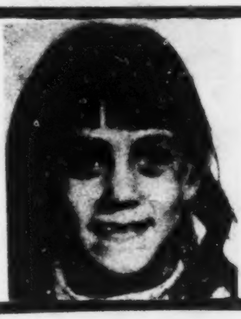


1515 SHERRY LYNN ESKEY

DOB: 12/25/77 (6 years old)

Red hair, blue eyes; left ear folds over on top

Abducted March 1981 from Berks Co., Pennsylvania by mother (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 22 years old, 5'1")

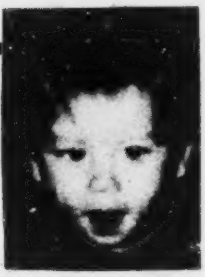


1516 SHANNON KIMBERLY BENNETT

DOB: 7/15/75 (6½ years old)

Brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted March 3, 1981 from Carson Co., Nevada by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, brown eyes, dark complexion with acne scars, 45 years old, 5'10")



1517 KENNETH GENE KINNARD

DOB: 1/13/79 (3 years old)

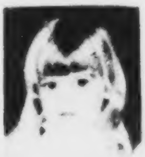
brown hair, blue eyes; small brown patch on back of his neck

Abducted October 22, 1980 from Logan Co., Oklahoma by father (caucasian, brown hair, green eyes, 27 years old, 5'9")

felony warrant issued from Oklahoma

Published September 1981

1519



VIOLET MARIE UNDERWOOD (Little Tuff)

DOB: 3/21/76 (5½ years old)

blond hair, brown eyes

Abducted March 1979 from Linn County, Oregon by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 39, 5'7")

abducted with sister JENNIFER

felony warrant

JENNIFER ANN BIGELOW (Shortcake)

DOB: 1/24/78 (4 years old)

auburn hair, brown eyes

Abducted March 1979 from Lane County, Oregon by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 39, 5'7")

abducted with sister VIOLET MARIE

felony warrant

1520

LISA MICHELLE STOCK

DOB: 4/19/78 (3½ years old)

blond hair, hazel eyes; brown mark below right or left buttock

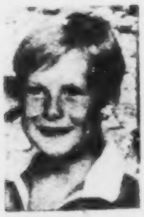
Abducted December 1980 from Bear County, Texas by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, brown eyes, 31, 5'10")

felony warrant

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1523 ROBERT CARROLL DRAKE (Robby)

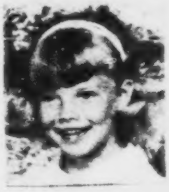


DOB: 9/5/72 (9 years old)

blondish brown hair, blue eyes;
small gap in front teeth;
dimple lower left cheek

Abducted August 1980 from Oklahoma by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, blue eyes, large tatoo of peacock on upper right arm, 26, 5'10")

abducted with sister SABRINA



SABRINA PAYNELL DRAKE (Sissy)

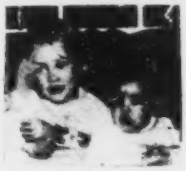
DOB: 2/12/74 (7½ years old)

light brown hair, green eyes; small
scar on and over right eyebrow

Abducted August 1980 from Oklahoma by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, blue eyes, large tatoo of peacock on upper right arm, 26, 5'10")

abducted with brother ROBERT

1524 JULIE ANNE LE CLAIRE



DOB: 3/20/76 (5½ years old)

blond hair, brown eyes

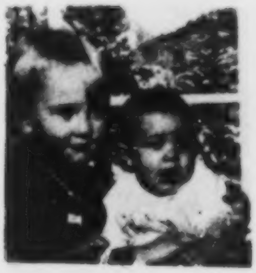
Abducted April 1979 from Dane Co., Wisconsin by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, periodic seizures, medicated with valium and dilathin; 30, 5'9")

abducted with sister NICOLE

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1524



NICOLE JEAN LE CLAIRE (Niki)

DOB: 9/17/78 (3 years old)

blond hair, brown eyes; a group of blood vessels on left side of her torso

Abducted April 1979 from Dane Co., Wisconsin by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes; periodic seizures, medicated with valium and dilathin; 30, 5'9")

abducted with sister JULIE

felony warrant

1525 BENJAMIN DAVID TUCKER (Ben)

DOB: 6/7/64 (17 years old)

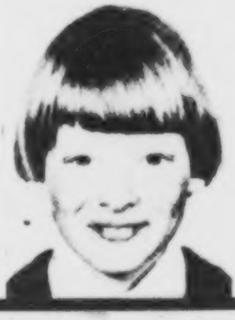
red hair, blue-green eyes, freckles; two upper incisor teeth broken leaving inverted "V" notch)

Abducted May 20, 1976 from Janeau Co., Alaska by father (caucasian, sandy red hair, hazel eyes, white eyebrows, 43, 5'11")
inclined toward commune and nudist colonies

abducted with brother TOBIAS and sisters ROMONA and WENDY

alleged sexual abuse

felony warrant



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1525 ROMONA LEE TUCKER (Mona, Moe)

DOB: 3/28/66 (15½ years old)

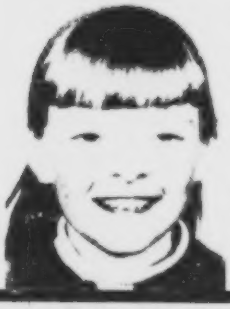
red hair, blue eyes; heavily freckled; was very outgoing

Abducted May 20, 1976 from Janeau Co., Alaska by father (caucasian, sandy red hair, hazel eyes, white eyebrows, 43, 5'11")
inclined toward commune and nudist colonies

abducted with sister WENDY and brothers BENJAMIN and TOBIAS

alleged sexual abuse

felony warrant



1525 TOBIAS PATRICK TUCKER (Toby)

DOB: 10/23/69 (12 years old)

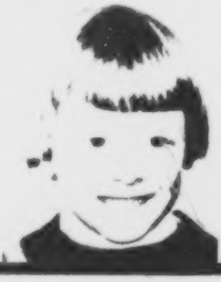
red hair, blue eyes; had speech deficiency - could not pronounce secondary sounds

Abducted May 20, 1976 from Janeau Co., Alaska by father (caucasian, sandy red hair, hazel eyes, white eyebrows, 43, 5'11")

abducted with brother BENJAMIN and sisters ROMONA and WENDY

alleged sexual abuse

felony warrant



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

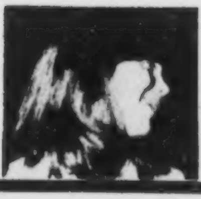
1525

WENDY LORE TUCKER (Wee)

DOB: 5/28/62 (19 years old)

red hair, green eyes, freckled; chronic ear infection - deafness in one ear

Abducted May 20, 1976 from Janeau Co., Alaska by father (caucasian, sandy red hair, hazel eyes, white eyebrows, 43, 5'11")



abducted with sister WENDY and brothers BENJAMIN and TOBIAS

alleged sexual abuse

felony warrant

1526

JARED LEWIS HALL

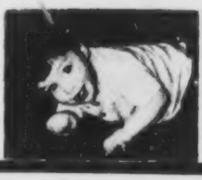
DOB: 11/25/77 (4 years old)

dark brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted June 1980 from Skagit Co., Washington by mother (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 27, 5'2")

alleged abuse

warrants issued



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1527

CATHERINE DORIS JOHNSON

DOB: 4/16/70 (11 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; light brown or beige oval mark on front side of ankle

NO PHOTO

Child was an infant when abducted

Abducted April 1972 from Cook Co., Illinois by father (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 36, 5'10")

1528

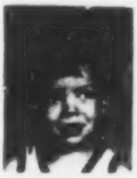
RAYMOND MATTHEW WIEGAND

DOB: 8/13/77 (4 years old)

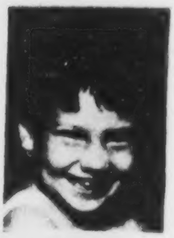
light brown hair brown eyes

Abducted December 1980 from Delaware Co., Pa. by father (caucasian, dark brown-gray hair brown eyes, 30, 6')

felony warrants other than child-snatching



1529



LUKE EVERETT GROMER (Lukie)

DOB: 3/8/75 (6½ years old)

brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted with brother MARK December 1979 from Kankahee County, Illinois by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'2")

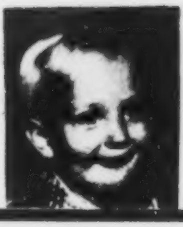
alleged abuse

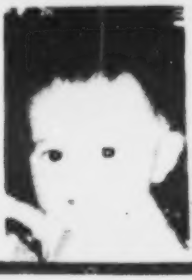
felony warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

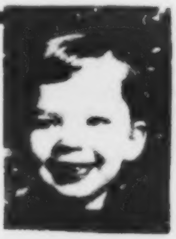
1529 MARK GABRIELLE GROMER (Markie)
DOB: 11/23/77 (4 years old)
Platinum hair, blue eyes
Abducted with brother MARK December 1979 from Kankahee Co., Illinois by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'2")
alleged abuse
felony warrant issued





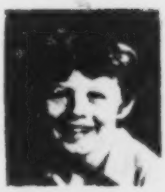
1530 CARISA OHLON BENNETT
DOB: 12/30/79 (2 years old)
light brown hair, brown eyes; birthmark red spots on left part of chest, shoulder and arm
Abducted July 1980 from Craven Co., North Carolina by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 23, 5'10½")

1532 JASON LEE VAUGHAN (Peanut)
DOB: 7/31/78 (3 years old)
brown hair, blue eyes, scar on right leg from burn
Abducted November 1980 from Skagit Co., Washington by father (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 27, 5'6")
warrants issued



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.



1534 ROBERT JOHN THOMPSON (Bobby)

DOB: 7/11/69 (12 years old)

light brown hair, grey-blue eyes

Abducted August 1975 from Clockamas Co., Oregon by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, blue eyes, 52, 5'8")

felony warrant issued

1535 MICHELLE GRAW
(alias in Canada: Bella Franks)

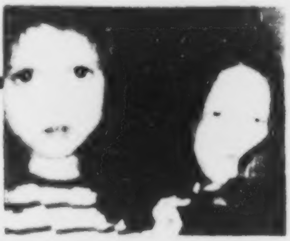
DOB: 12/31/71 (10 years old)

light brown hair, brown eyes;
left eye turns out - needs operation to prevent blindness

Abducted September 15, 1979 from New Jersey (from Canada March 1, 1981) by father's mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes 80, 5'3")

extreme abuse alleged

father wanted on other charges in addition to child-snatching



1535 MARA GRAW (alias in Canada: Nina Franks; Mariska and Kaduska Marnina)

DOB: 1/27/71 (11 years old)

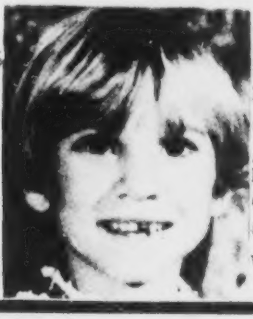
dark brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted with sister MICHELLE by father and grandmother

Published September 1981

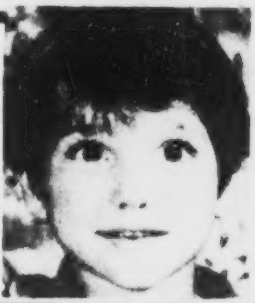
FILE
NO.

1536

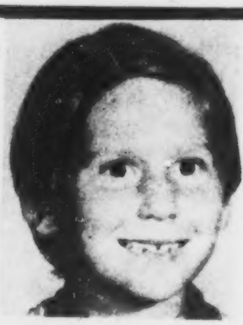


RIBBIJON MARIE BENDER (Chub)
DOB: 7/2/72 (9 years old)
dark blond hair, blue eyes
Abducted September 1980 from Waskoe Co., Nevada by father (caucasian, brown hair, green eyes, 37, 5'3")
abducted with brother LANCE
warrant issued

1536 LANCE EDWARD BENDER (Champ)
DOB: 9/6/73 (8 years old)
dark brown hair, blue eyes
Abducted September 1980 from Waskoe Co., Nevada by father (caucasian, brown hair, green eyes, 37, 5'3")
abducted with brother RIBBIJON
warrant issued



1538



GEOFFREY SCOTT FOX (Geoff or Jeff)
DOB: 11/4/69 (12 years old)
strawberry blond hair, brown eyes; chicken pox scar on forehead and upper chest; symptomatic asthma
Abducted June 1980 from Polk Co., Fla. by father (caucasian, brown-gray hair, brown eyes, red moustache, 45, 5'11")
abducted with brother GREG
alleged child abuse
warrants other than for child-snatching (felony)

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1538 GREGORY ALLEN FOX (Greg)

DOB: 10/30/74 (7 years old)

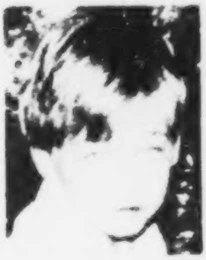
sandy blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted June 1980 from Polk Co., Florid by father (caucasian, brown-gray hair, brown eyes, red moustache, 45, 5'11")

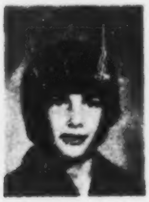
abducted with brother GEOFF

alleged child abuse

warrants other than for child-snatching (felony)



1539



WILLIAM KELLY ROSE II (Kelly or Bill)

DOB: 1/18/68 (12½ years old)

light brown hair, light brown eyes; perthes disease; bilateral. When tired will limp; gate lurch to left, short step, stiff hip gate

Abducted January 1978 from Dallas Co., Texas by mcther (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 47, 5'6") (has hypoglycemia and xobertism)

felony warrant issued

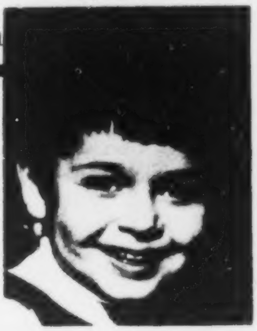
1541 GERALD EDWARD BOYCE (Joseph Reuven)

DOB: 7/9/74 (7 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted July 1979 from Oakland Co., Michigan by father (caucasian, dark brown hair with gray, gray eyes, 41, 6'2")

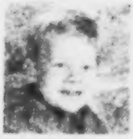
felony warrant issued



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1542



BRADLEY SCOTT WAITSMAN (Brad or Brady)

DOB: 1/23/74 (7½ years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; slight scar on left cheek under eye at cheek bone

Abducted from Washington Co., Maryland November 1978 by mother (caucasian, light brown to red hair, hazel eyes, 33, 5'3")

alleged abuse

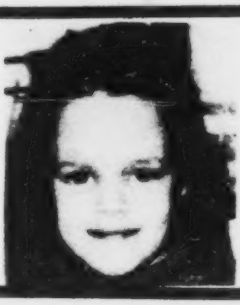
felony warrants other than for child-snatching

1543 ANDEA VENCHUS

DOB: 6/8/70 (11 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; top two front teeth slightly forward

Abducted June 1977 from Porter Co., Indiana by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, green eyes, 36, 6'7½")



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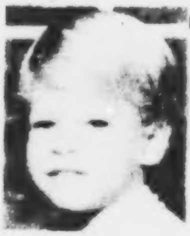


RONALD EARL TAYLOR (Ronnie)

DOB: 10/22/74 (7 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted January 1980 by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 24, 5'7")

alleged abuse

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

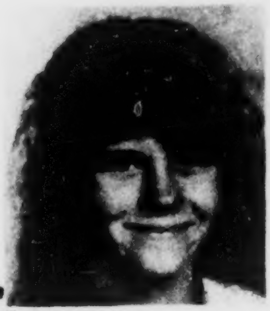
1545 HEATHER LYNN BAILEY

DOB: 5/11/70 (11 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted July 1980 from Greene Co., Pennsylvania by father (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 32, 5'10½")

warrants issued



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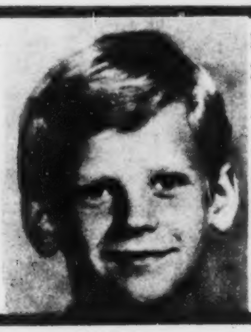


HEATH IRWIN BAILEY

DOB: 5/4/71 (10 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; brown birthmark between his shoulder and elbow; small scar on right cheek below eye

Abducted July 1980 from Greene Co., Pennsylvania by father (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 32, 5'10½")

abducted with sister HEATHER

warrants issued

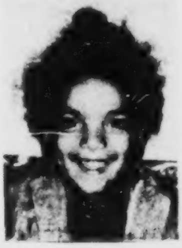
1546 FELICIA MARIE GABLE (Flea)

DOB: 7/26/71 (10 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; coffee mark on right side of face, dark complexion

Abducted October 1976 from Bristol Co., Missouri by father (black, brown hair, brown eyes, glasses, 32, 5'10½")

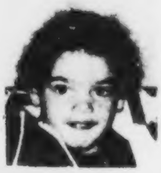
abducted with sister JESSIE



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1546



JESSICA JEAN GABLE (Jessie)

DOB: 8/1/73 (8 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes, olive complexion, teeth protrude slightly, faint scar under left eye

Abducted October 1976 from Bristol Co., Missouri by father (black, brown hair, brown eyes, glasses, 32, 5'10½")

abducted with sister FELICIA

1548

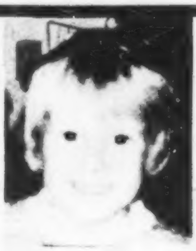
JASON STEWART TROMBLEY (Jake)

DOB: 3/8/75 (6½ years old)

blond hair, brown eyes

Abducted December 1980 from Hillsdale, Michigan by mother (caucasian, blond hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'4")

warrants issued



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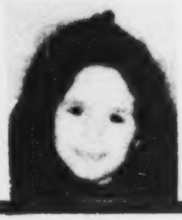


FILOMENA GATTA

DOB: 6/5/71 (10 years old)

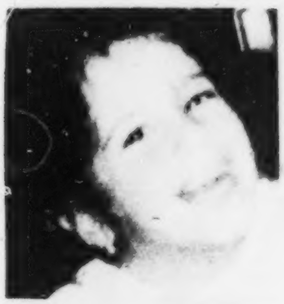
brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted October 1980 from Nassau Co., N.Y. by mother (caucasian, dark blond hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'6")

abducted with sister MARIA

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.



1550 MARIA GATTA

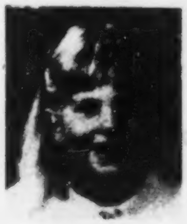
DOB: 7/19/75 (6 years old)

dark brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted October 1980 from Nassau Co., N.Y. by mother (caucasian, dark blond hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'6")

abducted with sister FILOMENA

1551



JULIA MARIE OLSON (Julie or Jules)

DOB: 4/24/77 (4½ years old)

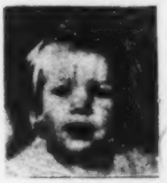
blond hair, hazel eyes; birthmark on back of head in lower hairline

Abducted November 1980 from Siskiyou Co., California by father (caucasian, dirty blond hair, green eyes, 27, 5'8")

abducted with sister SHELLY

warrants issued

1551 MICHELLE ANNIE MAE OLSON (Shelly)



DOB: 8/9/79 (2 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted November 1980 from siskiyou Co., California by father (caucasian, dirty blond hair, green eyes, 27, 5'8")

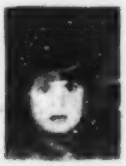
abducted with sister JULIE

warrants issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1553



SHAWNEE NICOLE MALONE

DOB: 9/27/77 (4 years old)

dark brown hair, brown eyes; large dimple on left cheek

Abducted September 1980 from Hamilton County, Ohio by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, dark brown eyes, 34, 6')

felony warrant issued

1554

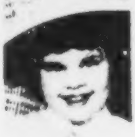
SHANNON ELAINE EHLERT (Binky or Binks)

DOB: 5/11/75 (6 years old)

Brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted May 1980 from Woodbury County, Iowa by mother (caucasian, blond hair, hazel eyes, glasses, 31, 5'6")

abducted with sister SHAUNA



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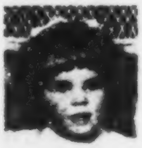


SHAUNA KATHLEEN EHLERT

DOB: 5/30/78 (3 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; infantile eczema

Abducted May 1980 from Woodbury County, Iowa by mother (caucasian, blond hair, hazel eyes, glasses, 31, 5'6")

abducted with sister SHANNON

Published September 1981

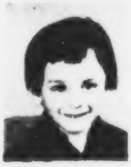
FILE
NO.

1555 MATTHEW LAWRENCE LOPEZ

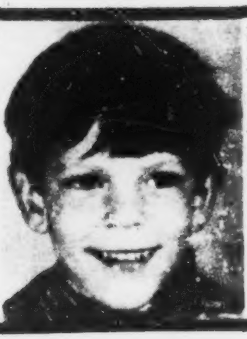
DOB: 6/26/75 (6 years old)

brown hair, dark brown eyes
(cowlick on hairline)

Abducted March 17, 1981 from Adams Co., Colorado by mother (caucasian, light brown hair, blue eyes, 21, 5'7")



1556

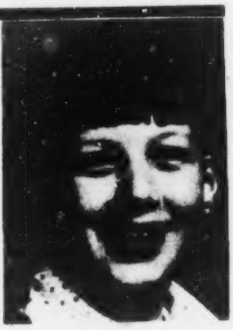


DANIEL LEE GILBREATH

DOB: 2/1/73 (8½ years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; scar under chin

Abducted March 1978 from Pasco County, Florida by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, glasses, 33, 5'0")



1557 KONRAD JAMES BRAUKSIECK (KJ)

DOB: 2/8/73 (8½ years old)

brown hair, hazel eyes;
dimples when he smiles; birthmark on top of his right foot; allergic to cigarette smoke

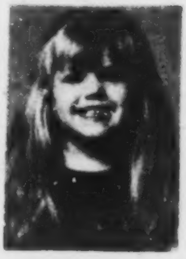
Abducted July 1979 from Onondaga Co., New York by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 27, 5'7")

possible abuse alleged

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1559



KATRINA ANN DAVIS (Trina)

DOB: 12/21/75 (6 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; chicken pox scar on forehead between eyes; small dark brown mole on right buttock; small light brown birthmark on front hair line; front two teeth slightly chipped; left side of ribs over the heart is indented more so than on the right

Abducted November 29, 1979 from Garvin Co., Oklahoma by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, many tatoos, 26, 5'9")

felony warrant issued

1560

KRISTIE DIANE JACKSON

DOB: 5/6/72 (9 years old)

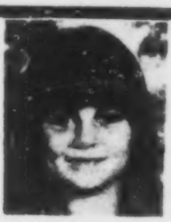
brown hair, big blue eyes

Abducted January 6, 1981 from Adams County, Iowa by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 31, 5'10")

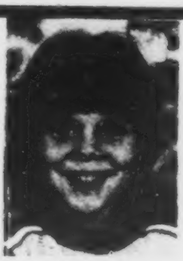
abducted with brother DOUG and sister AMANDA

possible abuse alleged

warrants issued



1560



BOBBY DOUGLAS JACKSON (Doug)

DOB: 11/16/73 (8 years old)

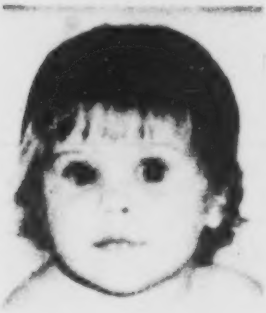
brown hair, big blue eyes

abducted with sisters KRISTIE and AMANDA by father

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1560 AMANDA JOY JACKSON



DOB: 6/20/79 (2 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; had red blotches on both eyelids which were starting to fade

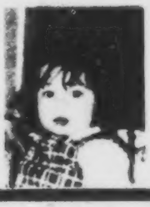
Abducted January 6, 1981 from Adams County, Iowa by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 31, 5'10")

abducted with sister KRISTIE and brother DOUG

possible abuse alleged

warrants issued

1563



THERESE RHONDA GONZALEZ

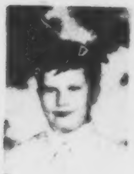
DOB: 5/11/77 (4 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes, dimple on chin

Abducted August 22, 1980 from Denver County, Colorado by mother (caucasian, light brown hair, brown eyes, 22, 5'3")

possible abuse alleged

1564 FRANK PAUL HAECKER



DOB: 6/25/66 (16 years old)

brown hair, green eyes; heavyset

Abducted May 8, 1976 fron Franklin County, Arkansas by father (caucasian, gray hair, brown eyes, no age given, 6'2")

abducted with brother TIM

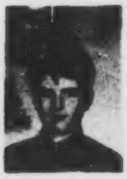
possible abuse alleged

felony warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1564



TIMOTHY WAYNE HAECKER (Tim)

DOB: 7/3/67 (15 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; small and thin - had cancer of spine at 1 year; had a kidney removed - now in remission (requires checkup yearly)

Abducted May 8, 1976 from Franklin County, Arkansas by father (caucasian, gray hair, brown eyes, no age given, 6'2")

abducted with brother FRANK

possible abuse alleged

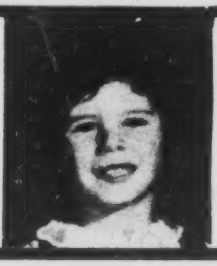
felony warrant issued

1565 ANGELA MARIE DORANDO

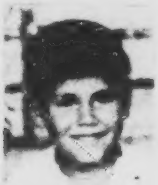
DOB: April 6, 1975 (6 years old)

red hair, brown eyes

Abducted August 23, 1979 from San Diego Co., California by father (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, glasses, tatoos on both arms, 30, 5'6")



1566



KENNETH LEWIS BARLOW (Kent)

DOB: 7/15/75 (6 years old)

small scar under chin where he had stitches

Abducted August 9, 1980 from Jackson Co., Mississippi by father (caucasian, black hair, blue eyes; thumb on right hand disfigured, 31, 5'11")

abducted with brother CHAD

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1566 CHADWIN JAMES BARLOW (Chad)

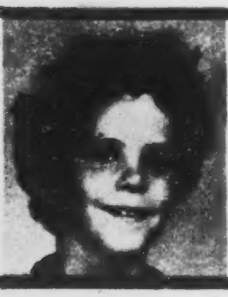
DOB: 5/16/77 (4 years old)

brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted August 9, 1980 from Jackson Co., Mississippi by father (caucasian, black hair, blue eyes; thumb on right hand disfigured, 31, 5'11")

abducted with brother KENT

1567



JONATHAN WHICHARD BRAXTON

DOB: 5/23/72 (9 years old)

brown curly hair, brown eyes; scar on right eyebrow; gap between front teeth

Abducted September 15, 1980 from Cumberland Co., North Carolina by mother (caucasian, black-brown hair, brown eyes, glasses, 37, 5'3")

abuse alleged

1568 DONALD LEROY GRAFF II (Donnie)

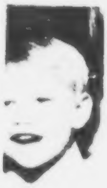
DOB: 12/21/73 (8 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes, freckles

Abducted February 13, 1980 from Maricopa Co., Arizona by father (caucasian, black hair, green eyes, glasses, 42, 5'11")

abducted with sister SISSY or DAWN

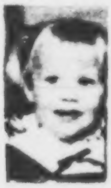
warrants issued



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1568



DAWN LORRAINE GRAF (Sissy or Dawn)

DOB: 7/16/76 (5 years old)

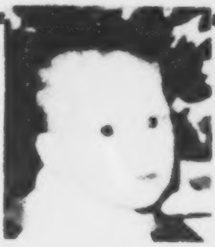
blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted February 13, 1980 from Maricopa Co., Arizona by father (caucasian, black hair, green eyes, glasses, 42, 5'11")

abducted with brother DONALD (Donnie)

warrants issued

1569



KIM ANNE TOMEY

DOB: 8/30/73 (8 years old)

dirty blond hair, hazel-brown eyes;
high forehead; fair peachy skin;
legs go inward

Abducted February 1, 1975 from Bergen Co., New Jersey by father (caucasian, platinum blond hair, blue eyes, 28, 5'11")

abuse alleged

warrants issued

1570

LORI JEAN ERICKSON (Jean)

DOB: 4/12/69 (12½ years old)

straight short brown hair, blue eyes; tall and thin; small scar on knee

Abducted February 8, 1980 from Washtenau Co., Michigan by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, 41, 5'8")

abducted with brother IVANS

PHOTO OF BOTH
CHILDREN ON
NEXT PAGE

Published September 1981

FILE NO.

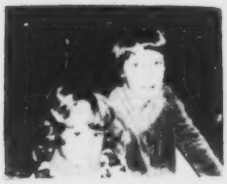
1570 IVANS ERICKSON

DOB: 10/13/74 (7 years old)

long brown hair with blond streaks, brown eyes; husky build

Abducted February 8, 1980 from Washtenau Co., Michigan by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, 41, 5'8")

abducted with sister JEAN



1571 JASON ROBERT BLANKENSHIP (JR)

DOB: 12/17/78 (3 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

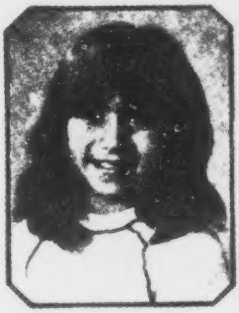
Abducted February 26, 1981 from Orange Co., Florida by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, glasses, 35, 6'0")

1518 SHAMIN RANDHAWA (Sherry)

DOB: 4/11/67 (14 years old)

Abducted in 1975 by mother

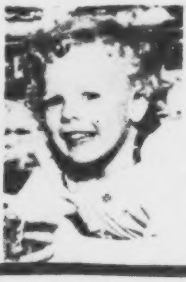
Searching father has written a lengthy letter to Sherry which we are trying to deliver to her. Her father does not wish to disturb his daughter but wishes her to know that he loves her and has searched for her endlessly.



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1573



REBECCA ANN MERTINS (Becky)

DOB: 12/15/76 (5 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; possibility of a scar just beyond hairline and on underside of left nostril from a dog bite

Abducted December 25, 1979 from Riverside Co., California by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 26, 5'10"

1574 DANIEL JASON POWELL

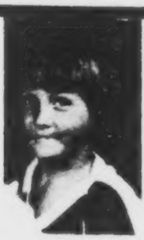
DOB: 10/2/78 (3 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted from Ritherford County, North Carolina December 25, 1980 by father (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 24, 5'8")

warrants issued

1575



KEITH ALAN HUBER

DOB: 5/10/73 (8 years old)

light brown hair, hazel eyes; scar from hernia operation; scar under chin

Abducted August 1, 1980 from Anne Arundel Co., Maryland by father (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 37,

abducted with sister HEATHER

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

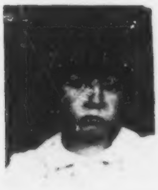
1575 HEATHER LYNN HUBER

DOB: 7/7/76 (5 years old)

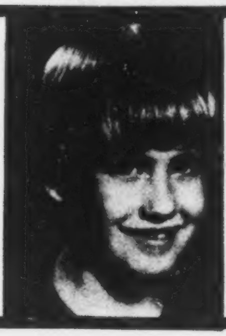
light brown hair, hazel eyes; small scar on forehead and corner left eye; bottom right foot

Abducted August 1, 1980 from Anne Arurdel Co., Maryland by father (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 37, 6'1")

abducted with brother KEITH



1576 JOSEPH ANTHONY SWENSON (LJoey)



DOB: 8/11/74 (7 years old)

blondish curly thick hair, brown eyes; birthmark on stomach, light brown by belly button

Abducted October 1, 1979 from Kitsap Co., Washington by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 27, 6'2")

abducted with sister JAMIE - abuse alleged

warrants issued

1576 JAMIE ANN SWENSON

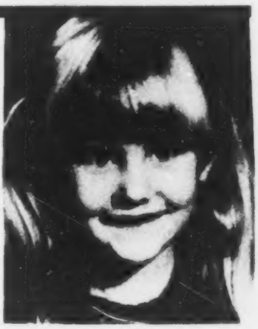
DOB: 10/15/76 (5 years old)

blondish curly thick hair, brown eyes; birthmark on right back of leg (calf)

Abducted October 1, 1979 from Kitsap Co., Washington by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 27, 6'2")

abducted with brother JOSEPH

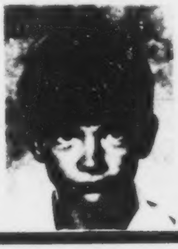
warrants issued - abuse alleged



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1578



COREY JAMES DODSON

DOB: 12/10/73 (8 years old)

brown hair, blue-gray eyes

Abducted June 22, 1980 from Maricopa Co., Arizona by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 36, 6'0")

warrants issued

1579

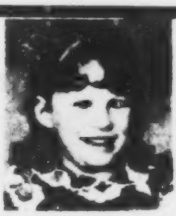
MYRANDA JANE HAMBY (Randy)

DOB: 2/8/76 (5½ years old)

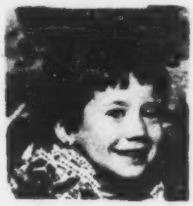
strawberry blond hair, blue eyes; small knot on right lower lip

Abducted January 30, 1981 from Franklin Co., Ohio by mother (caucasian, auburn hair, green eyes, glasses, 26, 5'6")

warrants issued



1580



LYNDA VIRGINIA SCOTT (Lyndy Taco)

DOB: 7/1/77 (4 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; small brown mole left face (cheek); small brown mark left hand

Abducted April 1, 1981 from Dade Co., Florida by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 39, 6'1")

felony warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1638 **GWEN MICHELE FREUND**

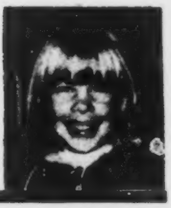
DOB: 11/21/75 (6 years old)

blond hair, not sure of eye color

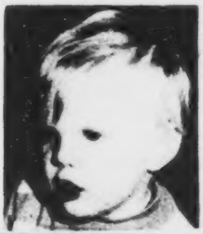
Abducted April 27, 1981 from Missoula, Montana by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 27, 5'8")

felony warrant issued

abducted with brother BRYCE



1638 **BRYCE ANDREW FREUND**



DOB: 10/29/79 (2 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted April 27, 1981 from Missoula, Montana by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 27, 5'8")

abducted with sister GWEN

felony warrant issued

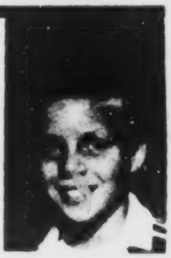
1582 **TY LEE GRAY**

DOB: 6/4/68 (13 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; right leg half inch shorter than left due to injury

Abducted June 13, 1977 from Germany by grandparents - retired from U.S. armed forces (grandfather: caucasian, black hair, black eyes, 37, 6'1")

abducted with brother GLENN



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1582 GLENN MARTIN GRAY

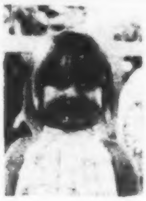
DOB: 10/14/70 (11 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted June 13, 1977 from Germany by grandparents - retired from U.S. armed forces (grandfather: caucasian, black hair, black eyes, 38, 6'1")

abducted with brother TY

1583 MELISSA JOY HALE (Missy)

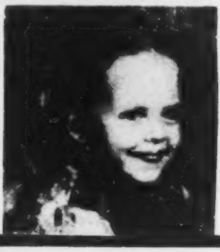


DOB: 1/29/78 (3½ years old)

brownish blond hair, brown eyes; small brown mole on outside of either left or right knee

Abducted October 12, 1980 from San Bernadino Co., California by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 31, 5'8")

1584



KRISTINE JANE KENNEDY (Kriss or Krissy)

DOB: 7/24/76 (5 years old)

dirty blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted March 20, 1981 from Ulster County, New York by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, 28, 5'3")

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

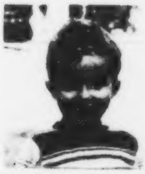
1585 ERICK JORDAN

DOB: 3/1/66 (15½ years old)

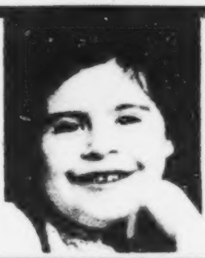
light brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted October 11, 1978 from Suffolk County, New York by father (caucasian, blond-gray hair, blue eyes, 51, 5'8")

abuse alleged



1586



TAMARA FARROW BUCK

DOB: 12/28/75 (6 years old)

brown hair, blue eyes; small space between two front teeth; may be asthmatic

Abducted February 4, 1981 from Ramsey Co., Minnesota by mother (caucasian, almost black hair, blue eyes, 30, 5'1")

abuse alleged

felony warrant issued

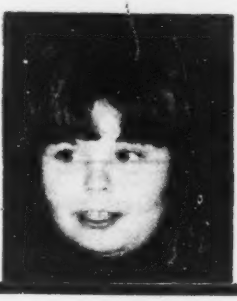
1587 BRADLEY SHERMAN EGGERT (Brad)

DOB: 5/30/77 (4 years old)

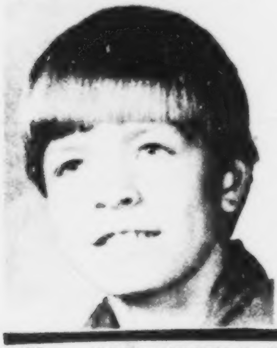
brown hair, brown eyes; small scar in middle of forehead; three small indentations at base of spine; head in back slightly flattened on one side

Abducted September 15, 1980 by mother (caucasian, brown hair, hazel eyes, 36, 5'3")

abuse alleged



Published September 1981



RICHARD EARL BRIGGS (Chip)

DOB: 7/3/70 (11 years old)

reddish brown or blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted October 31, 1979 from Sullivan Co., New Hampshire by mother (caucasian, brown-black hair, brown eyes, 33, 5'1")

abducted with sister LINDA

abuse alleged

felony warrant issued

1588 LINDA CHRISTINE BRIGGS (Lin)

DOB: 4/11/72 (9 years old)

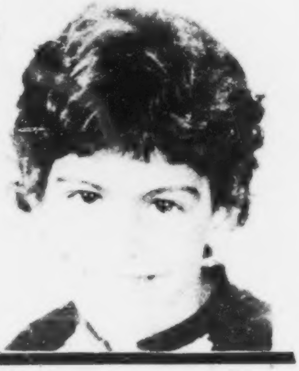
brownish hair, brown eyes; has lazy eye, wears glasses; separated two front teeth

Abducted October 31, 1979 from Sullivan Co., New Hampshire by mother (caucasian, brown-black hair, brown eyes, 33, 5'1")

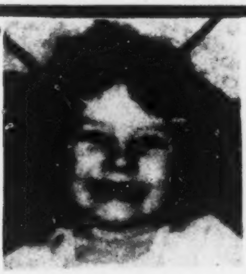
abducted with brother RICHARD

abuse alleged

felony warrant issued



1589



KIMBERLY ANN CASANOVA (Kim)

DOB: 4/6/74 (7 years old)

light brown hair, hazel eyes

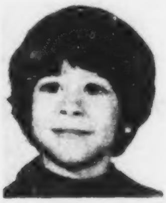
Abducted July 3, 1980 from Kings Co., New York by mother (caucasian, blond hair, brown eyes, 25, 5'5")

warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1590 JUSTIN MATTHEW SHORT



DOB: 9/8/72 (9 years old)

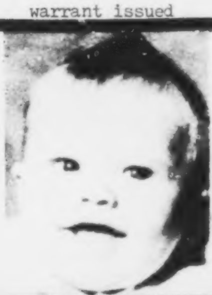
brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted March 19, 1979 from San Diego County, California by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 34, 5'10")

abuse alleged

warrant issued

1591



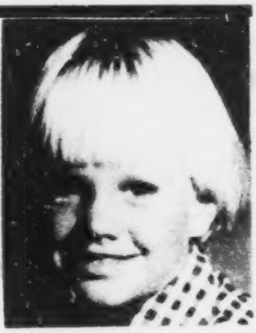
RYAN MICHAEL VAN LEUEVEN

DOB: 2/6/77 (4½ years old)

strawberry blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted August 1977 from Shasta Co., California by father (caucasian, sandy blond to light brown hair, blue eyes, no age or height given)

1593 ANANDA MOY MOORMAN



DOB: 6/14/75 (6 years old)

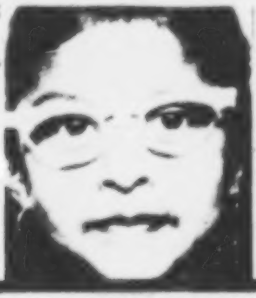
blond hair, blue eyes; mole on lower back

Abducted March 27, 1981 fron San Diego Co., California by father (caucasian, dark blond hair, blue eyes; "Tex" tatood on arm, 41, 6'1")

felony warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.



1594 LISA ESPORANZA MONTES (Chachitas)

DOB: 8/1/68 (13 years old)

black hair, dark brown eyes; mole on bottom of foot

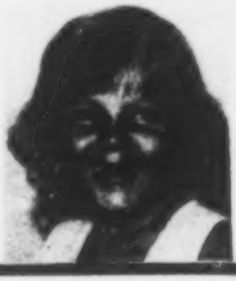
Abducted in 1975 from Texas by father (caucasian, silver gray hair, brown eyes, glasses, 65, 5'2")

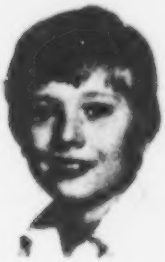
1595 KIM MARIE OLIVER (Kimy)

DOB: 5/24/69 (12 years old)

blond to light brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted 5/22/74 from Florida by mother (caucasian, red-brown hair, hazel eyes, 31, 5'6")





1596 TAJ NARBONNE (Paul)

DOB: 6/18/71 (10 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

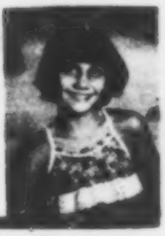
DISAPPEARED March 31, 1981 from Massachusetts no clues

REWARD

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1597 MELISSA DAWN MC CARTY (Sissy or Missy)



DOB: 10/22/70 (11 years old)

brown hair, green eyes; no belly button due to operation as a baby

Abducted August 1980 from Texas by mother (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 33, 5'7")

1598 ROBERT ANTONIO BENACQUISTA (Robby)

NO PHOTO
AVAILABLE

DOB: 2/15/63 (18½ years old)

Abducted 1968 from Albany, New York by mother (brown hair, brown eyes, wears glasses, 38, 5'3")

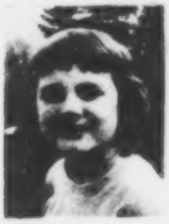
abducted with brother GREG

1598 GREGORY STEPHEN BENACQUISTA (Greg)

Abducted 1968 from Albany, New York by mother (brown hair, brown eyes, wears glasses, 38, 5'3")

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

1599 SARAH CATHERINE SMITH



DOB: 2/10/74 (7½ years old)

dark blond hair, blue eyes, half-inch birthmark on left back shoulder blade area

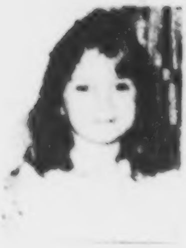
Abducted August 25, 1980 from St. Clair, Michigan by father (caucasian, black curly hair, hazel eyes, wears glasses, 29, 6'0")

warrants issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1600 AMY LEE ENDERS

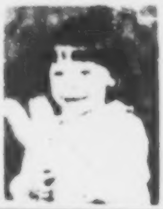


DOB: 4/25/72 (9 years old)

sandy brown hair, blue eyes;
lid of left eye droops; "strawberry"
on lower left rib cage, lower inner
right thigh, and three on lower right
shoulder blade

Abducted May 14, 1976 from Pinellas Co., Florida by father (caucasian, dirty blond hair, blue eyes, 31, 6'1")

1601



KIMBERLY MICHELLE GALLOWAY

DOB: 1/17/79 (2½ years old)

black hair, blue eyes

Abducted April 19, 1981 from Rowan Co., North Carolina by father (caucausian, brown hair, green eyes, glasses, 26, 5'8")

abuse alleged

warrant issued (felony)

1602 MICHAEL DEAN NEGRILA

DOB: 12/12/76 (5 years old)

no description - child 9 months
old when abducted

Abducted September 13, 1977 from Marivespa Co., Arizona by father (caucasian, black with gray hair, dark brown eyes, mole on right side of neck, 42, 5'9")

warrants issued (felony) for child-snatching and other

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1603

STEVEN JAMES BERMAN

DOB: 10/25/69 (11 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted in 1973 by mother (dark brown hair, brown eyes, 33, 5'5")

warrant issued from Kings County, New York

PHOTO NOT
AVAILABLE

1604

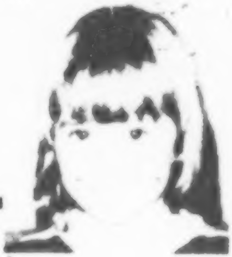
MICHEL FRANCES HARRAN (Michel pronounced Michael)

DOB: 9/11/68 (13 years old)

light brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted January 31,1975 from Montgomery Co., Maryland by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 35, 6')

warrant issued



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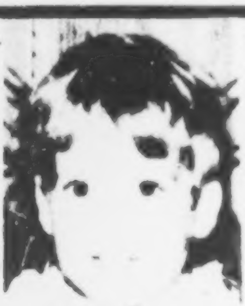


DAVID MICHAEL HARRAN

DOB: 7/14/71 (10 years old)

blond hair, brown eyes

Abducted January 31, 1975 from Montgomery Co., Maryland by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 35, 6')

warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

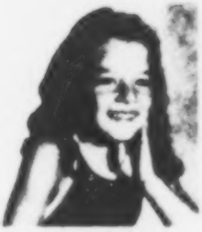
1605 REBECCA LYNN KLASSON (Becky)

DOB: 5/10/74 (7 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; birthmark on lower neck - was red but fading as she grew older

Abducted February 16, 1980 from Lake County, Ohio by father (caucasian, light brown to blond hair, blue eyes, acne scars on face, 26, 5'10")

warrant issued



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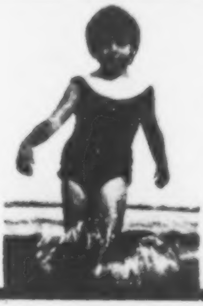


DENISE LOWENSTEIN

DOB: 8/16/65 (16 years old)

no description - abducted 9 years ago

Abducted August 28, 1972 by mother

1607 KELLEY JANE MARIE MC MULLEN

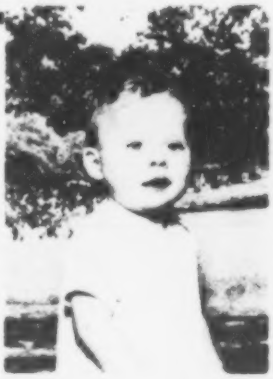
DOB: 7/5/78 (3 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; faint red mark on back of upper right leg; red marks at nape of neck; small dark mole on lower left leg; pierced ears; extra front teeth

Abducted June 28, 1981 from Erie Co., New York by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, brown eyes, cysts in cheeks, ears, around eyes, 58,5'6")

warrants issued

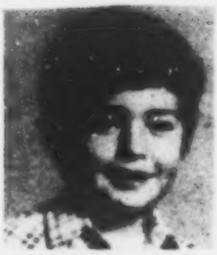
abuse alleged



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1609



CHRISTOPHER JOHN CONCEPTION

DOB: 10/21/75 (6 years old)

dark brown hair, brown eyes; slight scar on forehead; scar on scalp; tall for his age; tends to be chubby; olive complexion

Abducted March 30, 1981 from Broome County, New York, by father (caucasian, black hair, blue-green eyes, 35, 6'0")

felony warrant issued

1610

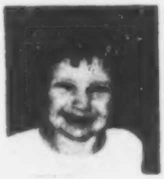
JESSICA AISHA FULTON (Aisha or Jesse)

DOB: ~~1~~2/3/77 (4½ years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; right ear pierced

Abducted June 1, 1981 from King County, Washington by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, brown eyes, scar on forehead - round the size of a bottle cap, buck teeth, 36, 5'8")

warrant issued



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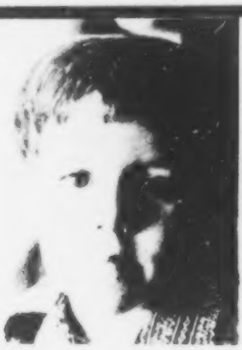


WILLIAM JOSEPH FARRELL IV (Billy)

DOB: 7/31/67 (15 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; right angle scar on face near left eye above cheekbone

Abducted January 31, 1972 from Schenectady Co., New York by father (caucasian, light brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, 35, 6'2½")

warrants issued (felony)

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

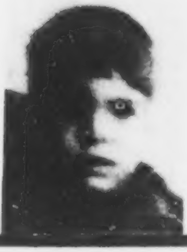
1612 WILLIAM LAURENCE AKLU

DOB: 3/19/62 (19½ years old)

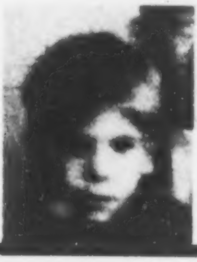
brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted November 23, 1966 from Wisconsin
by father (caucasian, brown-gray hair,
hazel eyes, glasses, 52, 5'7")

abducted with brother GEORGE



1612



GEORGE EDWARD AKLU

DOB: 7/29/63 (18 years old)

blond hair, hazel eyes

Abducted November 23, 1966 from Wisconisn
by father (caucasian, brown-gray hair,
hazel eyes, glasses, 52, 5'7")

abducted with brother WILLIAM

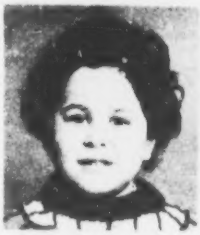
1614 EVAN LEE JARSHAUER (Ev or Evi)

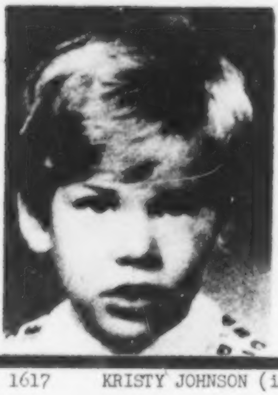
DOB: 12/21/68 (13 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; large "beauty
mark on left shoulder; reading disability;
10/10 vision in both eyes; had difficulty
focusing from blackboard to notebook

Abducted March 25, 1975 from Nassau Co.,
New York by father (caucasian, brown hair,
brown eyes, glasses, 42, 6'2")

warrants issued - abuse alleged





Published September 1981

7
FILE NO. 16[illegible]5

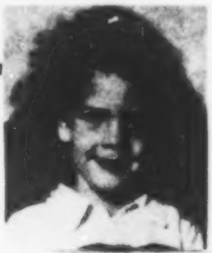
JASON ROBERT CARSTEN

DOB: 3/29/77 (4½ years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; mole on one thigh

Abducted July 15, 1980 from Spink County, South Dakota by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, glasses, 37, 5'11")

felony warrant issued



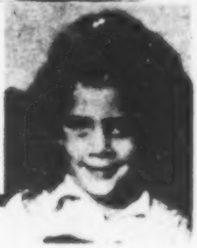
1617 KRISTY JOHNSON (identical twin)

DOB: 11/16/75 (6 years old)

long brown curly hair, hazel eyes

Abducted November 28, 1980 from Los Angeles County, California by father (black, black hair, brown eyes, 41, 6'3")

warrant issued

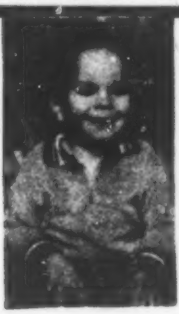


1617 KATHY JOHNSON (identical twin)

DOB: 11/16/75 (6 years old)

long brown curly hair, hazel eyes

abducted with sister KRISTY as above



1618 JASON LEE BRUECHNER (Jase)

DOB: 7/9/78 (3 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes;
ears crack under ear lobe and behind bend in legs

Abducted July 17, 1981 from Saratoga Co., New York by father (caucasian, black hair, blue eyes, 61, 5'7" - union carpenter 27 yrs.)

Published September 1981

FILE NO.

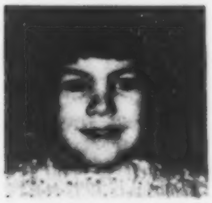
1619 RORRY JUSTIN MCGINNIS (RJ)

DOB: 1/29/78 ($3\frac{1}{2}$ years old)

light brown hair, hazel eyes
front tooth (primary) is gray

Abducted June 3, 1981 from Butler Co., Pennsylvania by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 39, 6'3")

warrants issued



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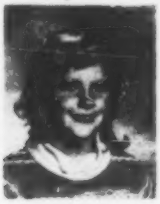


SHAY MARIE NICHOLS

DOB: 4/23/71 ($10\frac{1}{2}$ years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; tall for her age

Abducted September 6, 1979 from Macomb Co., Michigan by father (caucasian, reddish blond hair, blue eyes, glasses, 39, 6')

abducted with brother SHAUGHN

warrants issued(felony)

1620 SHAUGHN MARC NICHOLS

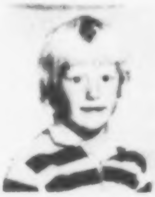
DOB: 3/1/73 (8 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; slight stutter;
large for his age

Abducted September 6, 1979 from Macomb Co., Michigan by father (caucasian, reddish blond hair, blue eyes, glasses, 39, 6'0")

abducted with sister SHAY

warrants issued (felony)



Please remember to refer to file numbers and page numbers when making identifications.

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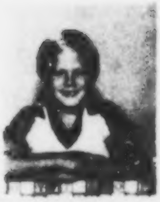
FILE NO.

1621



JAMES HENRY RAAP, JR. (Jimmy)

DOB: 1/7/75 (6½ years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted October 24, 1980 from Dade County, Florida by father (caucasian, brown hair, green eyes, 40, 6'0")

warrants issued (felony)

1622

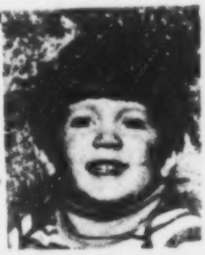
JEFFREY ROBERT HAYDEN (Jeff)

DOB: 7/3/78 (3 years old)

brown hair, blue eyes

Abducted June 15, 1981 from Minidoka Co., Idaho by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, 34, 5'10½")

warrants issued (felony)



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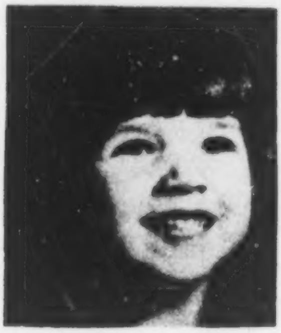


KURT ANTHONY HIGGINS

DOB: 4/14/69 (12 years old)

light brown hair, brown eyes

Abducted March 24, 1973 from Hennepin Co., Minnesota by father (caucasian, dark brown hair, brown eyes, 36, 5'10")

felony warrant issued

Published September 1981

FILE NO.

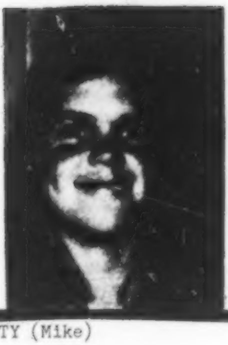
1624 KATHLEEN ANN DAUGHERTY

DOB: 1/21/67 (14½ years old)

light brown hair, hazel eyes; may wear glasses

Abducted June 16, 1978 from Dade Co., Florida by mother (caucasian, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, 34, 5'1")

abducted with brother MIKE
warrant issued



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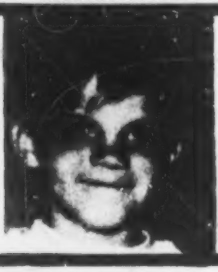


KENNETH MICHAEL DAUGHERTY (Mike)

DOB: 6/16/78 (3 years old)

blond hair, brown eyes, freckles; small-frame body

Abducted June 16, 1978 from Dade Co., Florida by mother (caucasian, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, 34, 5'1")

abducted with sister KATHLEEN
warrant issued

1625 ELAND CRAMLET ANDERSON

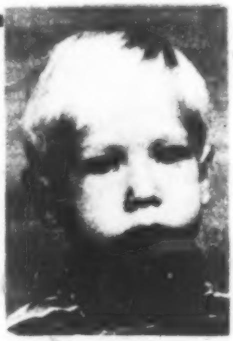
DOB: 8/14/76 (5 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; towhead; "beauty mark" high on inside right cheek; light, small, circular scar below right knee

Abducted December 29, 1979 from Jefferson Co., Colorado by father (caucasian, light brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, 38, 6'3")

abuse alleged

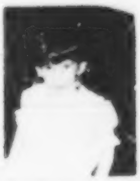
felony warrant issued



Published September 1981

FILE NO.

1626



ARDITH E. SCRANTON (Ardie)

DOB: 10/19/77 (4 years old)

brown hair, blue eyes; light colored birth mark on stomach close to navel

Abducted August 10, 1981 from Orange Co., Florida by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, 37, 5'9")

warrants issued - alleged abuse

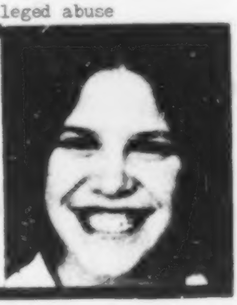
1627 AMY BETH FICKEISEN (Aim)

DOB: 1/14/69 (12½ years old)

brown hair, blue eyes, glasses (large brown horn rim with heart in lower corner of right glass)

Abducted June 23, 1981 from Campbell Co., Kentucky by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 40, 5'7")

warrants issued



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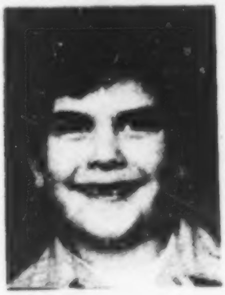


ERIC CLIFFORD FICKEISEN (Guy)

DOB: 7/3/73 (8 years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes; tubes in ears; 4" scar under right arm (arm pit)

Abducted June 23 1981 from Campbell Co., Kentucky by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 40, 5'7")

abducted with sister AMY

warrants issued

Published September 1981

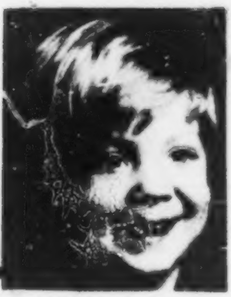
FILE NO.

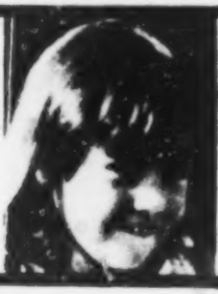
1628 PAUL GREGORY WALLEN, JR.

DOB: 3/11/77 (4½ years old)

light brown hair, blue eyes which change to green; dimples when he laughs or smiles

Abducted July 20, 1981 from Dade Co., Missouri by mother (caucasian, light brown hair, green eyes, 23, 5'5")





1629 MICHELLE HELEN LENTZ (Chelly)

DOB: 11/18/73 (8 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; excessive body hair especially on back

Abducted April 1978 from York Co., Pennsylvania by mother (caucasian, black (dyed) hair, brown eyes, 29, 5'2")

warrants issued

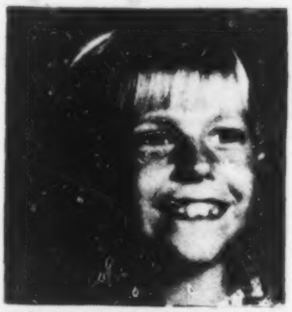
1630 THERESA DIANE KATEUSZ

DOB: 9/27/69 (12 years old)

blond hair, brown eyes, wears glasses

Abducted September 19, 1980 from Alaska by father

abducted with brother TIMOTHY and sister AFTON MARIE



FILE
NO.

1632

DEBRA ANN SAHAKIAN (Deb)

DOB: 5/23/69 (12 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes; small red mark under left eye; two brown moles on right shoulder

Abducted May 24, 1979 from Marin Co., California by father (caucasian, brown-gray hair, dark brown eyes, glasses; large nose, bushy eyebrows, cleft chin; 59, 5'10")

felony warrants

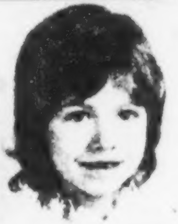
1633 RENEE DAWN WILD

DOB: 9/28/70 (11 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted August 3, 1978 from Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania by mother (caucasian, auburn hair, blue-green eyes, glasses, 36, 5')

warrants for other than child-snatching



1634

GERARD CHRISTOPHER WILD (Jerry)

DOB: 6/27/75 (6 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted August 3, 1978 from Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania by mother (caucasian, auburn hair, blue-green eyes, glasses, 36, 5')

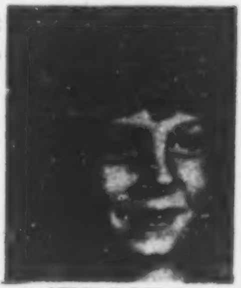
abducted with sister RENEE

warrants for other than child-snatching

Published September 1981

FILE

1630



TIMOTHY DAVID KATEUSZ

DOB: 3/28/71 (10 years old)

brown hair, hazel-brown eyes, scar on left cheek

Abducted September 19, 1980 from Alaska by father

abducted with sisters THERESA and AFTON MARIE

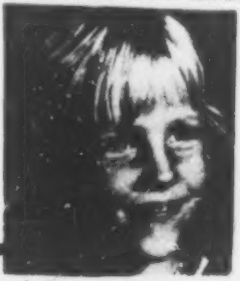
1630 AFTON MARIE KATEUSZ

DOB: 6/26/73 (8 years old)

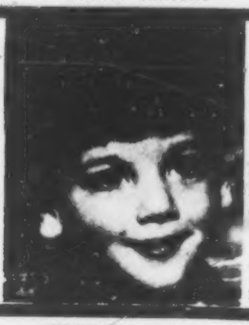
blond hair, green eyes

Abducted September 19, 1980 from Alaska by father

abducted with sister THERESA and brother TIMOTHY



1631



KHALID ANTON AHMAD (John) (John-John)

DOB: 3/15/78 (3½ years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; scar from hernia operation

Abducted July 31, 1981 from Genesee Co., Michigan by father (Arabic, dark skin, dark brown hair, brown eyes, scar between eyes on his nose, 31, 5'10")

abducted with brother MICHAEL

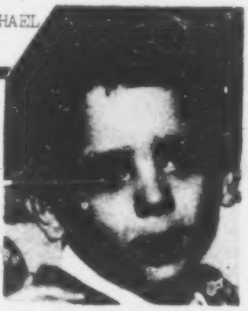
felony warrant issued

1631 MICHAEL SCOTT AHMAD (Khaldon)

DOB: 3/18/79 (2½ years old)

brown hair, brown eyes; scar on nose-left side and under nose

abducted with brother KHALID above



Published September 1981

FILE
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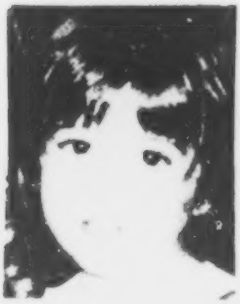

1634 ELAINA JANE CARUANA

DOB: 9/26/77 (4 years old)

light brown hair, brown eyes
tiny little bump on left upper arm (front)-always picked it - like a mole

Abducted May 1, 1981 from Alamance Co., North Carolina by father (caucasian, dark blond hair, blue eyes, 38, 5'10½")

warrant issued from Dade Co., Florida for other than child-snatching

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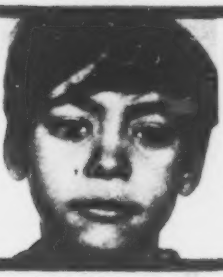


1635 FREDERICK CHRISTOPHER DA COSTA (Chris)

DOB: 12/18/72 (9 years old) brown hair, brown eyes

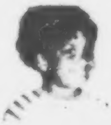
Abducted August 26, 1980 from Broward Co., Florida by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 38, 6'2)

abducted with brother MARK

1635 MARK ANTHONY DA COSTA (Marky)

DOB: 4/28/78 (3 years old)

brown hair, brown eyes



Abducted August 26, 1980 from Broward Co., Florida by father (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 38, 6'2")

abducted with brother FREDERICK (Chris)

Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

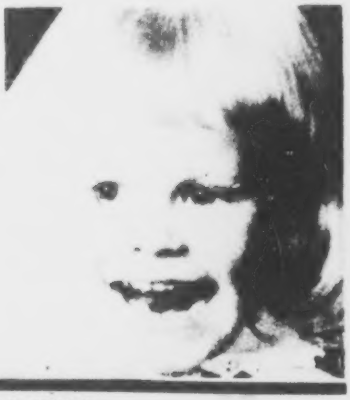
1636 MARGO ELIZABETH PIFER

DOB: 9/21/77 (4 years old)

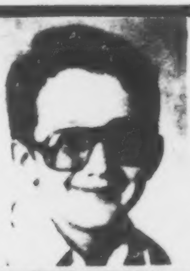
light blond hair, blue eyes; small chicken pox scar on face (cheek); very fair skin

Abducted 4/17/81 from King Co., Washington by father (caucasian, brown hair, blue eyes, 32, 6')

felony warrant issued



1637



BRANDON VANCE KELTON

DOB: 8/26/68 (13 years old)

light brown wavy hair, light brown eyes, glasses

Abducted August 14, 1981 from Eddy Co., New Mexico by father (caucasian, black hair, black eyes, glasses, 35, 5'7")

felony warrant issued from Wise Co., Texas

abuse alleged - abducted with brother BRENT

1637 BRENT VERNON KELTON

DOB: 9/25/70 (11 years old)

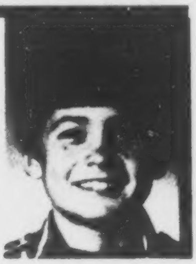
straight black hair, black eyes; some freckles

Abducted August 14, 1981 from Eddy Co., New Mexico by father (caucasian, black hair, black eyes, glasses, 35, 5'7")

abducted with brother BRANDON

abuse alleged

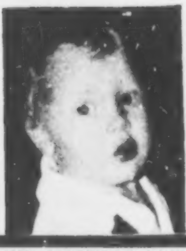
felony warrant issued from Texas



Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

1639



CHARLES GALEN BAZE II (Charlie)

DOB: 3/6/80 (1½ years old)

blond hair, blue eyes

Abducted March 23, 1981 from Monterey, Calif., by father (caucasian, dark brown-gray hair, hazel eyes, 32, 5'9")

warrant issued

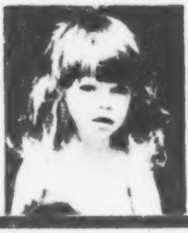
1640 AMY GABRIELLE ROSE (Gabby)

DOB: 1/28/70 (11½ years old)

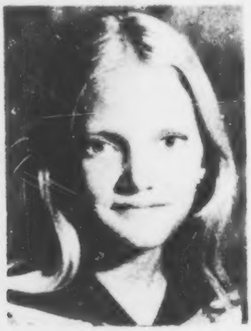
brown hair, brown eyes; tiny, wedge-shaped portion of one of her pupils is white instead of brown

AbductedApril 6, 1975 from Polk Co., Oregon by father (caucasian, sandy brown hair, blue eyes, 41, 5'7")

felony warrant issued



1641



KIM MARIE BARNES

DOB: 2/10/63 (18 years old)

blond hair, blue eyes ; diagonal scar over knee about 2½ inches long; scar under chin; scar on forehead above left eye centered between eyebrow and hairline (horizontal-1" long); small horizontal scar on bridge of nose between eyes; 5'8", 120 lbs.

DISAPPEARED July 14, 1979 from Hollywood, Florida

Published September 1981

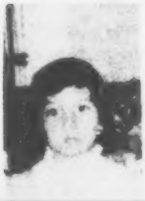
FILE
NO.

1642 JENNIFER ELIZABETH (CANO) DAVIS (Jenny)

DOB: 6/3/77 (4 years old)

brown hair, blue-green eyes; three very small dark brown moles just below left ear tip in line toward cheek; scar on elbow about 1" in length

Abducted August 26, 1981 from Sedgwick, Kansas by mother (caucasian, brown hair, brown eyes, 43, 5'3")



1643

CHRISTOPHER HAROLD PUGH (Chris)

DOB: 3/26/74 (7½ years old)

blond hair, hazel eyes, teeth braces

Abducted June 12, 1980 from Broward Co., Fla. by father (caucasian, black hair, brown eyes, 39, 5'7")

warrant issued

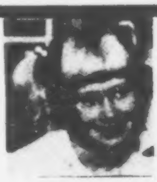
abuse alleged

1644 LISA RENE TANIS (NA)

DOB: 12/16/70 (10½ years old)

blond hair, green eyes

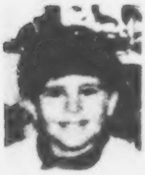
Abducted July 1978 from Douglas, Georgia by mother (caucasian, blond-brown-red hair, brown eyes, 33, 5'4")



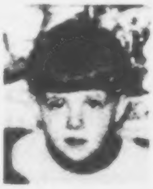
Published September 1981

FILE
NO.

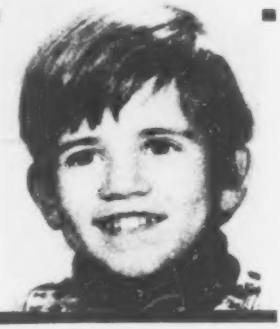
1646 ROGER HUDSON GRAY (Bomber)
DOB: 10/17/74 (7 years old)
dark brown hair, brown eyes
Abducted November 26, 1980 from
Delaware Co., N.Y. by mother
(caucasian, dirty blond hair,
blue eyes(?), 26, 5'6")
abducted with brother NAKIA



1646 NAKIA CALEB GRAY (Kia)
DOB: 3/16/76 (5½ years old)
light brown hair, blue eyes
Abducted November 26, 1980 from
Delaware Co., N.Y. by mother
(caucasian, dirty blond hair,
blue eyes(?), 26, 5'6")
abducted with brother ROGER



1647 ROBERT MICHAEL MALINOWSKI, JR. (Bobby)
DOB: 6/30/77 (4 years old)
brown hair, brown eyes
Abducted March 13, 1981 from
Massachusetts by mother (caucasian,
brown hair, brown eyes, 26, 5'4")



If you know the whereabouts of any of these illegally abducted children, please CHILD FIND at (914) 255-1848 or complete the Identification Form at the end of this Directory.

CHILDREN WHO HAVE CONTACTED CHILD FIND IN SEARCH OF THEIR PARENTS

FILE NO.	CHILD BY GENDER & BIRTH NAME INITIALS	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	PERSON SOUGHT BY GENDER AND INITIALS AT BIRTH
44	F - PF	White Cross Hospital Columbus, Ohio	Oct 6, 1946	mother - SLG
6	M - SH	Brooklyn, New York	Dec 2, 1946	father - RH
31	F - MC/S(A)	Miami, Florida	Nov 3, 1948	mother - EB
30	M - CRL(A)	Temple University Hosp Philadelphia, Pa.	Nov 19, 1953	mother - ?L
33	F - SEB	Orlando, Florida	Jan 14, 1954	father - HNB
38	F - SKC	Shaler Township Pittsburgh, Pa.	Jul 9, 1954	mother - ALK
19	- MA	Trinidad	Aug 9, 1956	father - RF
27	F - DC	Trenton, N.J.	Feb 23, 1957	mother - ?
45	M - DM	New York	Jun 11, 1957	father - ROM

NOTE: "(A)" sometimes appearing in second column means that the child believes he or she was adopted.

CHILDREN WHO HAVE CONTACTED CHILD FIND IN SEARCH OF THEIR PARENTS

FILE NO.	CHILD BY GENDER & BIRTH NAME INITIALS	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	PERSON SOUGHT BY GENDER AND INITIALS AT BIRTH
32	M - GS	Margaret Hague Hosp Jersey City, N.J.	Oct 10, 1957	father - HDT
37	F - BK	Newburgh, New York	Nov 3, 1958	father - HK
29	M - SS(A)	St. John's Hospital Santa Monica, Calif.	Jan 13, 1959	mother - TD
15	M - HLA	Chicago, Illinois	Jul 29, 1959	father - CA
14	F - VRA	Alton, Illinois	Nov 7, 1959	father - MR
12	F - GW	Brooklyn, New York	May 22, 1960	sister - ES last seen '66
2	F - BB	Paterson, N.J.	Jun 11, 1960	father - JWB
5	M - KL	Orange Hospital Orange, N.J.	Dec 19, 1960	mother - AL
11	F - JS	Branch Brook Co., N.J.	Jan 12, 1961	father - FCS,Jr.
23	F - TCF	Greenwich, Connecticut	Jun 2, 1961	father - AF
34	F - MCJ	Dallas, Texas	Aug 1, 1961	mother - MJJ

CHILDREN WHO HAVE CONTACTED CHILD FIND
IN SEARCH OF THEIR PARENTS

FILE NO.	CHILD BY GENDER & BIRTH NAME INITIALS	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	PERSON SOUGHT BY GENDER AND INITIALS AT BIRTH
42	F - CD	Lakeland, [illegible]	Aug 23, 1961	mother - DSMD
26	F - AC	Ellenville Hospital Ellenville, N.Y.	Oct 20, 1960	father - GC
10	M - RZ	Jamaica	Apr 8, 1962	father - JZ
16	F - EC	Doylestown, Pa.	Aug 16, 1962	father - ESC
18	F - MSA	Bayaron, Puerto Rico	Sept 13, 1962	mother - AP
13	F - MEW(A)	Vineland, N.J.	Jan 7, 1963	mother - JW
1	F - CK	New York City	Oct 29, 1963	father - GP
9	F - SW	Vailsgate, N.Y.	Feb 28, 1964	father - AW
22	F - MAS(A)	Philadelphia, Pa.	Aug 2, 1964	mother - ?S
36	F - SS	Raway Hospital Raway, New Jersey	Jun 4, 1965	mother - LS
40	F - PP(A)	Manhattan, New York	Aug 15, 1965	mother - TS-C
35	F - VD(A)	Massachusetts	Jul 30, 1966	mother - ?D

CHILDREN WHO HAVE CONTACTED CHILD FIND IN SEARCH OF THEIR PARENTS

FILE NO.	CHILD BY GENDER AND BIRTH NAME INITIALS	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	PERSON SOUGHT BY GENDER AND INITIALS AT BIRTH
7	F - SF	Sumpter, South Carolina	Apr 29, 1967	father - DH
41	M - KS(A)	Norwalk, Connecticut	Apr 30, 1967	mother - ?
8	F - CNN	Plainfield, N.J.	Jun 12, 1967	father - RN
21	M - "Paul" (A)	Misacordia Hosp. Bronx, N.Y.	Mar 11, 1968	mother child has med problems
24	F - MZ(A)	Quebec, Canada	Jun 4, 1968	mother - CZ
39	M - JM(A)	New Haven, Conn.	Oct 29, 1968	mother - ?
25	F - BB(A)	Philadelphia, Pa.	Apr 1, 1969	mother - ?
17	F - QC	Maryland	Aug 9, 1971	mother - ?
1600A	F - J	?	?	?
		abandoned on Dyckman St., NYC May 27, 1930 at about the age of three years		

It is difficult, if not impossible, for most of us to imagine living our lives not being able to remember our mother or father. All of these children express almost desperate desire to know one parent or both.

One young man wrote us regarding circumstances of separation:

> "Parents split. Father kept two of the children for a few years and then put them in foster homes."

One child told us his adoptive parents say he "was taken away."

If you have any information on any of the above children, please use the IDENTIFICATION FORM provided at the end of this directory.

Published September 1981

SOME OF THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO CHILD FIND AS KNOWN VICTIMS OF CHILD-SNATCHING

FILE NO.	APPROXIMATE AGE OF CHILD	INITIALS AND GENDER OF CHILD	FURTHER INFORMATION
100	7 years old	PS(B)-white male (not real name)	lives with 3 adults in Ca. He told his teacher he wants to find his father
101	8 years old (we have birth date)	DC-white male (real name)	has younger brother, K-6 yrs old; born in Northridge, CA. He told his teacher he wants to find his mother
102	10 years old (we have birth date)	JR-white male	lives with father, "Jim" has mentioned living in Arizona, Ohio, etc. abducted approximately 3-6 years ago by father
103	12 years old	white male	abducted 6 years ago from his mother who had legal custody father's initials: DJ
104	6 and 7 years respectively	two brothers - white males	abducted "a few years ago" by father who is living in commune in northern Ca. mother has legal custody
105	9 years old	"Scottie" white male	He lives with mother boy of approximately 11 visits from time to time-may be brother

Published September 1981

SOME OF THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO CHILD FIND AS KNOWN VICTIMS OF CHILD-SNATCHING

FILE NO.	APPROXIMATE AGE OF CHILD	INITIALS AND GENDER OF CHILD	FURTHER INFORMATION
106	12 years old	PP-white female (not real name)	abducted by father more than five years ago dark hair-thinning on top; brown eyes, 5'8"
107	8 years old (we have date of birth)	JD-white male	abducted by father mother may live in the western U.S., perhaps Arizona
108	10 years old	"KH"-white male dark brown hair brown eyes dark complexion	completed 2nd grade last year lives with mother and step-father (mother: ash blond hair, blue green eyes, light complexion)

Only 10% of the Searching Parents who have called us have registered. It is possible that one of those non-registered parents matches one of these children.

The above children are those we know absolutely are abducted children. There have been many more reported whom individuals suspect might be abducted, but have no really substantial grounds for their belief. We maintain these records in our office and refer to them each time a parent registers his or her children with Child Find.

MOTHERS SEEKING CHILDREN
GIVEN UP FOR ADOPTION

FILE NO.	BIRTHMOTHER BY INITIALS	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH NAME OF CHILD SHE SEEKS BY INITIALS & GENDER
1	JS	L.I. Jewish Hosp	Dec 13, 1969	JDS - M
2	EC	Women's Lying-In Hospital, NYC	Nov 9, 1965	MJ - F
3	H	Dover, N.J.		CAO'C - F
4		Elmhurst Hosp. Queens, N.Y.	Oct 5, 1969	SAN - F
5	GW	Lebonon Hospital Bronx, N.Y.	Nov 29, 1963	?W - M
6		Westchester Square Hospital Bronx, N.Y.	Jun 19, 1965	MC - F

95% of the mothers who are forced by circumstances to give up their babies at birth want to find their children. An even greater percentage of those children want desperately to know their mothers and fathers.

It is rare in the life of an ordinary person that he or she is given the opportunity to make a vital contribution to the life of another. A few of you who read this Directory will have that opportunity. May you use it wisely.

CHILD IDENTIFICATION FORM

Date: ____________________ **CONFIDENTIAL**

Name of child as it appears in Directory ____________________ File No. ______ Page No. ______

Brief reason you believe your identification of the above child is an accurate one ____

____

____

Your Name ____________________ Tel. No. (   ) ____________

City ____________________ State ____________________

Please provide your telephone number so that a Child Find staff member may contact you for follow-up information.

Mail this form to CHILD FIND, INC., P.O. Box 277, New Paltz, New York 12561-0277

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM

IN SEARCH OF OUR CHILDREN - OUR PARENTS (a Directory of the Missing) will be published three times each year.

___ I enclose $10.00 for my subscription copies of the Directory (1982).

___ I enclose $20.00 for my subscription copies of the Directory (1982 and 1983).

___ I enclose $______ for my subscription copies of the Directory (1982) at $2.00 each per dozen. Please send ____ dozen.

Name ______________________________, title ________________

____

Address ______________________________

______________________________ zip __________

Mail form to CHILD FIND, INC., P.O. Box 277, New Paltz, N.Y. 12561-0277.

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___ I enclose $______ for my subscription copies of the Directory (1982) at $2.00 each per dozen. Please send _____ dozen.

Name ______________________________, title ____________________

____

Address ______________________________

______________________________ Zip __________

CHILD FIND is a private, not-for-profit, self-help national registry for Searching Children and Parents. We are supported by tax-deductible contributions and foundation funding. We are staffed by non-paid dedicated volunteers. We maintain a toll-free telephone number for children and cooperate with public communications media, schools, police, social welfare institutions, and above all aware and caring individuals, in order to communicate to both children and adults who want to use our services.

DIRECTORY ORDER FORM

Please send me _____ Directories (Fall 1981, Vol.1, No.1) at $3.00 each.

Please send me _____ dozen Directories at $2.00 each.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $_________, including postage.

Name ______________________________ Tel No (   ) ____________________

Address ______________________________

______________________________ Zip _________

I am a searching parent ___, teacher ___, school administrator ___,law enforcement officer ___, private investigator ___, Other ______________

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Address ______________________________

______________________________ Zip _________

I am a searching parent ___, teacher ___, school administrator ___, law enforcement officer ___, private investigator ___, other ______________

PARENT REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM

I am a Searching Parent. Please send me a registration packet, so that my child(ren) can be listed in the Winter edition of the Director.

Name ______________________________ Tel. No. (   ) ________________

Address ______________________________

______________________________ Zip __________

___ I am enclosing $10.00 for my subscription to Child Find's bi-monthly Newsletter.

___ I wish to make a tax-deductible contribution toward distribution of the Directory in the enclosed amount of $__________.

Mail forms to CHILD FIND,INC.
P.O. Box 277
New Paltz, New York 12561-0277

Telephone: (914)255-1848

CHILD IDENTIFICATION FORM

Date ______________ CONFIDENTIAL

File No. Page No.

Name of child as it appears in Directory ______________________ ______ ______

Brief reason you believe your identification of the above child is an accurate one ____

____

____

Your Name ______________________ Tel. No. (   ) ______

City ______________________ State ______________

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City ______________________ State ______________

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DEE SCOFIELD AWARENESS PROGRAM

Serving AMERICA's VANISHED CHILDREN and Their FAMILIES

Co-DIRECTORS

Mrs. BETTY DINOVA **Mrs. IVANA DINOVA**
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813-839-5025 813-685-0511

Mrs RITA REKER
224 18 Ave N
St Cloud, MN 56301
TEL: 612-252-5283

TESTIMONY concerning The Missing Children Act, S. 1701 and H.R. 3781 - 10 Nov 1981

I. THE PROBLEM.

Our great country is capable of working technological miracles, but it cannot protect its innocent young children from destruction by ordinary street criminals. Our children are disappearing involuntarily from their homes at a rate estimated to be at least 50,000 per year. Most of these disappearances remain unsolved, even when a body is found to prove that the victim did not run away or that the voluntary runaway became a victim of street criminals.

II. THE CAUSES.

1. Apathy. These crimes flourish and escalate each year because no one seems to care. Until "Atlanta," the media did not consider missing and murdered children as newsworthy. The general public therefore remained unaware of the problem. But even since "Atlanta," when press coverage is more prevalent, some citizens have chosen to close their eyes and ears to the message unless it hits them personally or hits someone close to them.

2. Corruption. We can pick up a newspaper almost every day and read about corruption in high places. Because corruption exists within some police agencies and in many judicial chambers, and even in Congress, crime is allowed to go unchecked.

3. FBI Weakness. Our once esteemed FBI is no match for organized crime, either because of fear or because there is corruption within its own ranks, fed by financial greed and/or personal gratification.

III. THE SOLUTIONS.

1. Motivation. Every community across America must stir up its citizens to take precautions against street criminals. Until we can detect and weed out the corrupt elements in our official agencies and patrol those agencies more efficiently, we must protect ourselves and our children by being alert to the symptoms of crime and by taking preventive measures. We must make our citizens aware of the problem and motivate them to take community action. We need block parent programs and absentee reporting systems in all our schools; and we need visible, trustworthy security guards outside all shopping centers. Our federal legislators can herald this movement at the grass roots level...IF they are big enough to take on this responsibility.

2. Congressional Investigations.

a. Corrupt individuals. Congress must also take the responsibility of detecting and weeding out corrupt individuals from all government agencies at every level--local, state and federal. Corruption at the local level, as it pertains to missing child investigations, is a federal matter. The federal government must therefore assume responsibility for the total purification that is necessary.

b. Organized crime. Our government is well aware of the activities of organized crime, and we are pleased to note that the present Administration is making a serious effort to combat it. However, we question their priorities. We know that in order to capture the "big wheels" of organized crime, the "little guy" on the street is allowed to operate unmolested, the logic being that he will lead the crime busters to the "big wheels." The problem with this theory is that it totally disregards the human lives being ruined by that "little guy" on the street. Those human lives--in terms of missing children caught in drug, prostitution, and pornography schemes--are the lives of innocent children who don't stand a chance without our help. White slavery and child pornography are allowed to flourish... WHY? If the product of these multi-billion-dollar industries were removed from the grasp of the "little guys," this child exploitation could not exist. Is it so much more difficult for our government to protect these innocent children than it is to send a man to the moon?

3. FBI Redirection. We feel that the FBI needs to reassess its priorities to place the protection of its human resources above all else. The children being taken by the criminals in this country are usually the stable, conscientious, high-minded and intelligent ones who would one day become leaders of our society. If we continue to allow their lives to be snuffed out without any attempt to save them--as we have been doing for the past ten years or more--we are not only guilty of murder, but we are stripping our country of its best candidates for future leadership. The FBI was once a respected institution, but it has lost favor in recent years. We feel it could regain its stature by redirecting its power toward saving human lives instead of destroying them. We think the FBI could be a formidable foe of organized crime if it would come to the immediate aid of our endangered children by taking a new look at its misinterpretation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute.

IV. FEDERAL KIDNAPING STATUTE.

The answer to solving a large majority of mysterious disappearances of the past, and to preventing many would-be abductions in the future, is a more realistic and more accurate interpretation of the statute governing kidnapping in the United States. We submit the following views for evaluation and investigation:

1. FBI Guidelines. The following guidelines have been quoted repeatedly in correspondence to this organization and to JOSEPH V. SCOFIELD, Jr., father of missing 12-year-old DEE SCOFIELD for whom the DEE SCOFIELD Awareness Program was named:

a. "The FBI is authorized to search...when there is INFORMATION or an ALLEGATION that a person has been unlawfully abducted or held for RANSOM, reward OR OTHERWISE...AND where the person has been wilfully transported across state lines."

b. "The statute establishes a rebuttable presumption that the victim of an abduction has been transported across state lines, IF THE VICTIM IS NOT RELEASED WITHIN 24 HOURS."

It is our contention that the Justice Department and the FBI have arbitrarily added the requirement of PROOF of abduction as a criterion for an FBI investigation of a missing child case...when in fact no such proof is expressed or implied in the statute as quoted to us. Furthermore, the FBI routinely ignores the 24-hour presumption clause, thus aiding and abetting the criminal and condemning the victim.

2. Constitutional Rights.

a. A suspected criminal is given his constitutional right of being considered innocent until proven guilty by being allowed to go free on bail until a court duly convicts him. Innocent, immature children, on the other hand--by virtue of the FBI's arbitrary PROOF requirement--are immediately convicted (of running away, of having an accident, or of wandering off) until their families can prove foul play was involved. Where is the justice when a criminal's rights take precedence over an innocent child's rights...when convicted criminals can receive endless rights of appeal at taxpayers' expense even though they gave no such option to their innocent child victims, and when victims' families must personally bear the expense of proving their child's innocence?

b. Once it is determined that the slightest possibility of foul play exists, a child's constitutional rights are violated if that child is not considered a victim until it can be proven otherwise. As the system now works, this is not the case...It was not the case with DEE SCOFIELD, age 12; it was not the case with ADAM WALSH, age 6; and it was not the case with NEELY SMITH, age 5. (See par VII, THUMBNAIL CASE HISTORIES, this testimony.) ADAM and NEELY were found murdered, far from the places where they disappeared. DEE is still missing. We do not know if she is dead or alive. The FBI has refused to investigate all of these cases.

3. Present Jurisdictional Problems. An abducted child's survival depends on an immediate search and the ability of police to transcend boundary lines swiftly and smoothly. These elements do not exist within the present jurisdictional system. Most police agencies still observe a 24-hour waiting period, and too often police pride hinders smooth interaction between police agencies. Thus a kidnapper knows he is safe from the law as soon as he crosses the nearest jurisdictional boundary.

4. Need for FBI Jurisdiction.

a. This agency advocates FBI jurisdiction (or a separate federal agency) to find every missing child under 18 who cannot be located or PROVEN to be a runaway within the FIRST 24 hours after disappearance. The Tampa Police Department has indicated to us that 24 hours is sufficient time to determine if foul play is a possibility in a child disappearance.

b. We maintain that every missing child deserves the protection of specially trained investigators who are authorized to transcend every local, county and state boundary. Kidnapped children are rarely held within the jurisdictional boundaries, but if the FBI had jurisdiction there would be no boundary lines to protect the criminals. In our opinion, every missing child under 18 should have the benefit of FBI jurisdiction, whether or not voluntary flight was involved. Until we consider our children mature enough to vote, we cannot logically consider them mature enough to fend for themselves on our crime-ridden streets.

c. In rebuttal to the potential argument that federal jurisdiction over kidnap cases might violate Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution (which prohibits a national police agency), we would remind you that the Federal Kidnaping Statute itself makes provision for such jurisdiction through its 24-hour presumption clause ...which allows the presumption that the abductee has been taken across state lines if not released within 24 hours, thus meeting the basic requirements of the statute for authorization of an FBI investigation.

V. SUPPORTIVE EVIDENCE.

The files of the DEE SCOFIELD Awareness Program abound with indications that white slavery is flourishing in central Florida and throughout the United States. We invite bona fide federal investigators to pursue the following sources of information through us if they are interested in eradicating child kidnapping.

1. An investigative journalist, who was referred to us by a representative of the Florida Secretary of State, has documented records of white slavery throughout the United States, complete with names and incidents involving organized crime.

2. A mother of a 16-year-old girl believed to be a victim of forced prostitution in the central Florida area, has names and license tag numbers of suspected ring operators. She also has pictures of girls being loaded into trucks at a drop point which was quickly changed as soon as she reported it to the local sheriff. The local sheriff, incidentally, would not investigate this operation because the informant's own daughter was not among those in the documented photograph.

3. Several cases of abduction and attempted abduction in Ocala and other central Florida areas have been reported to us. A 15-year-old girl abducted from Ocala in 1980 was found three months later in California, too frightened to talk about the experience both then and now. At the time of her return to Ocala it was thought that two men were following her to get her back, and her whereabouts had to be protected. Another 15-year-old girl was abducted from Ocala into a pickup truck but managed to escape from the moving vehicle, tearing off a large portion of her skin after hitting the ground. A similar abduction was successful the following night in a town thirty miles away.

VI. STATISTICS.

1. Multiple Crimes. In a large percentage of cases, child molesters are never caught. DEE's abductor has not been caught; ADAM's killer has not been caught; and NEELY's killer has not been caught. When child molesters and murderers ARE caught, it is often found that they have already committed an average of five previous sex crimes. In some cases it is many more than that. We are firmly convinced that the high percentage of multiple child molesters and killers in the United States is a direct result of the country's outdated jurisdictional police system.

2. Kidnap Motivations. Today, only 10% of the actual child kidnap cases in the United States involve ransom, according to our five-year study of the limited number of cases available to us through newspaper clippings. The majority of child kidnappings and murders involve sex and depravity and mental deficiencies, as well as sophisticated, well organized business enterprises that thrive on child exploitation. Is a child any less kidnapped when he is held for sex and depravity and pornography rather than for ransom? Do not these other purposes come under the "OR OTHERWISE" clause in the Federal Kidnaping Statute?

VII. THUMBNAIL CASE HISTORIES.

In support of our beliefs and convictions stated herein, we offer as evidence the following thumbnail recaps of three case histories from our files: ADAM WALSH, age 6; NEELY SHANE SMITH, age 5; and DEE SCOFIELD, age 12:

1. ADAM WALSH, age 6, is dead...DECAPITATED. Had been missing two weeks. ADAM disappeared from the toy department at Sears in the Hollywood/FL Mall on 27 July 1981. He was allegedly seen departing the area outside Sears with a strange man unknown to ADAM's family. This story was told under hypnosis by the 10-year-old boy who witnessed it. In our view, this constitutes valid "INFORMATION" that ADAM was "unlawfully abducted." And since he did not return within 24 hours, we feel he was entitled to the benefit of the presumption clause in the kidnap statute that presumes a victim has been taken across state lines (a requirement for an FBI investigation) if not released within 24 hours. But three area offices of the FBI refused to investigate ADAM's disappearance: the Fort Lauderdale office; the Miami office; and the Southeast Regional Office which is based in Miami. These refusals were made in spite of a plea from Senator Paula Hawkins, R-FL, at our request, and in spite of an appeal to President Reagan by Attorney General William French Smith at the request of a personal friend of ADAM's family. On 10 August 1981, ADAM's head was found over 100 miles from where he disappeared. An autopsy indicated he had lived four days. IF THE FBI HAD ASSUMED JURISDICTION 24 hours after ADAM's disappearance, would he be alive today?

2. NEELY SHANE SMITH, age 5, is dead...STRANGLED. Had been missing two months. NEELY disappeared from her yard in Charlotte/NC on 18 February 1981. In spite of a $1500 ransom demand (one of the requirements for FBI jurisdiction), NEELY's mother could not get FBI help. At her request, we wrote FBI Director William Webster on 8 April 1981 and requested an FBI investigation, citing the ransom demand and a subsequent "ALLEGED" sighting of NEELY in Key West/FL, three states away. NEELY's body was found before we received the negative reply that the FBI lacked authority to search for her. We wrote two more times to the FBI, seeking an explanation of WHY the ransom demand was not sufficient authority for the FBI to investigate NEELY's murder; and both times we received a negative reply which completely ignored the ransom issue.

3. DOROTHY "DEE" SCOFIELD, age 12...is STILL MISSING (after more than 5 years). DEE vanished 22 July 1976 from an Ocala/FL shopping center while waiting for her mother to finish a written driver's test at the Florida Highway Patrol office so they could go to a movie together. A Highway Patrolman helped DEE's mother search around the shopping center that afternoon, but an official search did not start until the next day when it was learned that DEE had been seen by a clerk at a small convenience store near the Ocala National Forest just 24 hours earlier...IF THERE HAD BEEN AN IMMEDIATE SEARCH, would DEE be with her family today?

VIII. A CLASSIC CASE...DEE SCOFIELD.

1. An analysis of the sightings of DEE SCOFIELD after her disappearance on 22 July 1976 reveals a significant chronological and geographical pattern which should have been detected by investigators, but which was not detected either by the Ocala/FL P.D. which had jurisdiction, or by the FBI which allegedly investigated some of the sightings but did not take an active part in the overall investigation.

2. It is our belief that the Ocala P.D., being small and unaccustomed to searching for missing persons (237 runaways and missing persons cases during 1976,

according to Ocala P.D. records; as compared to approximately 1200 cases in the City of Tampa/FL per Tampa P.D. records for 1976), lacked the insight and expertise necessary to conduct an efficient investigation. It is our further belief that because the FBI did not assume jurisdiction, in spite of several out-of-state sightings, and investigated only selected sightings and/or clues, the involved FBI investigators lacked both the incentive and the tools for reaching any accurate conclusions.

3. In our view, not all of the suspects in DEE's case have been cleared. One such suspect is wanted by the FBI for another crime in the same locale, and once when he was spotted in another state the sheriff there would not pick him up without a written warrant from the jurisdictional police in Ocala/FL. By the time the warrant was mailed to the other state, the suspect had fled...IF THE FBI was notified, WHY didn't the FBI pick up this suspect? IF the FBI was not notified, WHY NOT?

4. Recent information received by the DEE Program leads us to believe that DEE could have been a victim of forced prostitution. If this is true, it is possible that organized crime is involved...and organized crime DOES come under FBI jurisdiction. WHY isn't this angle pursued by the FBI, not just in DEE's case but in many others as well? Is the FBI blind to these possibilities, or is it purposely avoiding them?

5. A list of sightings compiled by the DEE Program illustrates the possibility that DEE was in fact taken to California and back to Georgia, and that she may still be alive. The list also illustrates the need to eliminate the 24-hour waiting policy and the need for a national agency (FBI or otherwise) responsible for finding missing children and having total jurisdiction and complete authority to transcend every local, county and state boundary.

IX. LIST OF SIGHTINGS...DEE SCOFIELD.

1. 22 JUL 76 - OCALA/FL. TWO HOURS after disappearance. (This was the ONLY valid sighting, according to Ocala P.D.) DEE was allegedly seen by two clerks at a small grocery store near the edge of the Ocala National Forest, near the home of one of the suspects who is also wanted by the FBI for grand larceny. On initial questioning, one of the clerks provided information from which a composite drawing of the suspect was made. However, a week or so later she said she had not seen the face of the man who was standing beside the Coke machine outside the store when DEE came in and nervously purchased a Coke with a dollar bill. The clerk then claimed she had only seen the back of the man's head and his hairline; he had not turned around so she could see his face.

2. 24 JUL 76 - OCALA/FL. TWO DAYS after disappearance. (This sighting was dismissed by police as the product of a 12-year-old schoolgirl's imagination.) The incident occurred in the morning but was not reported to the police until 10:00 PM. While riding in the back of her father's pickup, a classmate of DEE's thought she saw DEE in the back of a passing van as the two vehicles pulled up at an intersection outside Ocala. She thought DEE seemed to be mouthing the word "HELP!" but had been afraid to say anything to her parents at first because she was not sure it had been DEE. When the Ocala P.D. did get the report that night, they allegedly gave the information to all their units which in turn checked all the vans IN THE AREA but found none matching the girl's description.

3. 29 JUL 76 - BRANDON/FL (20 mi. east of Tampa; 100 mi. south of Ocala). A WEEK after disappearance. (This sighting was checked out personally by DEE's dad, JOE SCOFIELD.) A cashier at the Big Star grocery store in Brandon/FL, who had just moved to Brandon from Ocala, had reportedly seen DEE twice in the grocery store and once next door at the K-Mart department store. However, when JOE SCOFIELD confronted her on Sunday, 1 Aug, she said she could not definitely identify the girl she had seen as DEE.

> (NOTE: One of the suspects from Ocala was in the process of being transferred to the Brandon K-Mart. As of the day of DEE's disappearance, his family was already living in the Brandon area but he had not yet moved. There has been no surveillance of this man.)

4. 8 AUG 76 - INDIANAPOLIS/IN. TWO WEEKS after disappearance. (A frightening report on which efforts to obtain official action were extremely frustrating.) At 9:00 AM on this Sunday morning, DEE's family was preparing to go to church when they received a telephone call from a girl on vacation with her parents. Having seen DEE's poster when passing through Ocala, she believed she had just seen DEE being pushed into a car in front of an Indianapolis motel by a black man. There was a bumper sticker on the car which read, "Blacks hate whites." The Ocala police officer in charge of DEE's investigation was unavailable, and the officer on duty said he could not help! DEE's sister, TONI KARR, called IVANA DiNOVA in Tampa to have the Tampa P.D. check out the story; then DEE's family went on to church. But Tampa police said they could do nothing without a direct request from either the parents (now unavailable) or the jurisdictional Ocala P.D. (also unavailable). The man on duty at the Tampa FBI office told BETTY DiNOVA he would report the incident to the Jacksonville office the next morning but he doubted they would investigate it. In desperation, IVANA DiNOVA called the Indianapolis P.D.; and although she got the same rules of jurisdiction there, the female officer on duty did check out the lead, but with negative results. THE FBI DID NOT INVESTIGATE THIS SIGHTING.

5. 12 AUG 76 - ST GEORGE/UT. THREE WEEKS after disappearance. DEE was allegedly seen at the Las Vegas Campground here by tourists who later called the SCOFIELDs from Nevada. The FBI investigated this sighting but "were unable to locate anyone there who knew her" (presumably the informant, who had already left the area of the sighting when she contacted the SCOFIELDs).

6. EARLY SEP 76 - LOS ANGELES/CA. SIX WEEKS after disappearance. (This was not a sighting, but the contact is extremely significant and follows the chronological/geographical sequence.) JOE SCOFIELD received a telephone call from a man calling himself "Dr. C. A. Thomas" who said he was with a group of parapsychologists at UCLA. He said the group wanted to work on DEE's case and that they had someone coming from Holland who would be helpful. FBI DID NOT INVESTIGATE.

> (NOTE: There was a noted psychic, Gerard Croiset, who lived in Holland at the time. Perhaps Dr. Thomas meant to imply he was the man they were waiting for. See call from Dr. Thomas, 7 Nov 76.)

7. 15 SEP 76 - STANTON/MO. EIGHT WEEKS after disappearance. On Sunday, 19 Sep 76, JOE SCOFIELD received a telephone call from a man who claimed he had definitely seen DEE in Missouri between STANTON and ST. CLAIR. He was a veteran enroute from a VA hospital in Columbia/MO to the VA hospital in Gainesville/FL as an out-patient. He said DEE was with other children in the yard of a home for wayward children where there were numerous shacks out in the woods where runaway children were living. He said the home had had a bad fire recently, burning some of the children badly. FBI ALLEGEDLY CHECKED OUT THIS LEAD, with negative results.

8. 7 NOV 76 - LOS ANGELES/CA. FIFTEEN WEEKS after disappearance. (This refers to "Dr. Thomas" and does not involve an admitted sighting; but the fact that the caller lied about his identity and occupation to remove the only means of positively identifying DEE makes him highly suspect. His motives and current whereabouts bear investigation.) "Dr. Thomas" called JOE SCOFIELD and told him the man from Holland had arrived and the UCLA parapsychologists believed DEE was in a California hospital in a state of shock, unable to talk with anyone. He asked JOE to send positive identification such as footprints, dental charts, etc. DEE's dental charts were sent to him. In FEB 77, when an unidentified body was discovered in Marathon/FL, the Ocala P.D. was asked to get DEE's dental charts from "Dr. Thomas" but learned he was no longer at the address given the SCOFIELDs and the Los Angeles P.D. was unable to locate him. DEE's family was able to trace him, however, through his last telephone bill in CA, to a telephone number in TX where he was using another name. He has since vanished again and NO OFFICIALS ARE LOOKING FOR HIM. UCLA said they had never had a parapsychologist named Dr. C. A. Thomas on their staff! The FBI DID NOT INVESTIGATE.

9. 30 DEC 76 - WORTHINGTON/OH (near Columbus/OH). FIVE MONTHS after disappearance. (The SCOFIELDs had moved to Ocala from a Columbus suburb ten months before DEE disappeared.) A close acquaintance of the SCOFIELD family saw a girl resembling DEE riding in a pickup truck with a CB handle of "RUNAWAY." The truck's license number was given that evening to a Columbus relative of the SCOFIELDs who in turn reported it to the Ohio Highway Patrol (about 17 hours after the incident). The patrolman refused to investigate because he had no proof DEE had been abducted, and he would not call Ocala P.D. to verify her disappearance. The SCOFIELDs finally received the information through family channels and had the Ocala P.D. check out the Alabama license tag. It took the Ocala P.D. two weeks to learn the truck owner's name and discover that he could not be located. NO FURTHER ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO FIND THIS MAN. THE FBI DID NOT INVESTIGATE.

10. 20 JAN 77 - AUGUSTA/GA. SIX MONTHS after disappearance. Acting on a telephone call received by JOE SCOFIELD, the FBI checked out the caller and could not locate anyone by the name given. The Ocala P.D. reported that "there was no such address as the one given, and the whole block there is a Plymouth dealership."

(NOTE: DID THE FBI CHECK OUT EMPLOYEES/OWNER OF DEALERSHIP?)

11. EARLY SEP 76 - MOULTRIE/GA. SIX WEEKS AFTER disappearance. (This sighting is the ONLY ONE THAT CONFLICTS with the orderly geographical/chronological pattern of the preceding sightings and hence was not included in sequence.) A minister, on his way from GA to Lakeland/FL, called JOE SCOFIELD after seeing DEE's poster in Ocala. Before leaving GA he said he had seen a couple get out of their car outside a store. A young girl--who resembled the picture of DEE--had stayed behind in the car until the couple said to her, "Come on, Dorothy, aren't you going to come with us?" The SCOFIELDs personally maintained surveillance of this Moultrie/GA store from 15-18 Sep 76, with negative results. FBI DID NOT INVESTIGATE.

X. SUMMARY. We understand The Missing Children Act would provide a national clearinghouse for information on missing children and unidentified bodies, and that it would be accessible not only to police agencies and other authorities, but to parents of missing children as well. We feel this would be a commendable first step toward what is ultimately and urgently needed--one national agency to find missing children and their abductors, and to insure that the abductors are brought to justice.

Betty Di Nova

BETTY DiNOVA, Co-Director/National Coordinator

97TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1701

To amend title 28, United States Code, to authorize the Attorney General to acquire and exchange information to assist Federal, State, and local officials in the identification of certain deceased individuals and in the location of missing children and other specified individuals.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 5 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 9), 1981

Mrs. HAWKINS (for herself, Mr. DENTON, Mr. PELL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. SYMMS, and Mr. THURMOND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To amend title 28, United States Code, to authorize the Attorney General to acquire and exchange information to assist Federal, State, and local officials in the identification of certain deceased individuals and in the location of missing children and other specified individuals.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Missing Children Act".

SEC. 2. (a) Section 534(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking out "and" at the end of paragraph (1);

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

"(2) acquire, collect, classify, and preserve any information which would assist in the identification of any deceased individual who has not been identified within fifteen days after the date of the discovery of the deceased individual;

"(3) acquire, collect, classify, and preserve any information from authorized officials of the Federal Government, the States, cities, and penal and other institutions, or from a parent, legal guardian, or next of kin of an unemancipated person, as defined by the laws of the State of residence of such person, which would assist in the location of any missing person who—

"(A) is under proven physical or mental disability making the person a danger to himself or others;

"(B) is in the company of another person under circumstances indicating that his physical safety is in danger;

"(C) is missing under circumstances indicating that the disappearance was not voluntary; or

"(D) is unemancipated as defined by the laws of his State of residence; and"; and

(4) by striking out "exchange these records" in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated) and inserting in lieu thereof "exchange such records or information".

SEC. 3. (a) The heading for section 534 of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§534. Acquisition, preservation, and exchange of identification records and information; appointment of officials".

(b) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 33 of such title is amended by striking out the item relating to section 534 and inserting in lieu thereof the following new item:

"534. Acquisition, preservation, and exchange of identification records and information; appointment of officials.".

Senator **Hawkins**. I realized that as we began this investigation. I think I probably learned more about it than I thought I had to learn, because it is a complex problem and it needs a solution quickly and rapidly. The statistics are mounting. In a society that has become used to violence, we become hardened somewhat to the description that we read of the typical runaway, for instance.

We have heard others say that that kid is asking for that, standing on that corner trying to get away. I think we must become much more sensitive to the question of why the child would need to leave in the first place. We also must be desensitized that a parental snatching is a good home versus a good home battle. As you pointed out, that is not always the case. It may be the case, but not always the case.

As we work together to solve this problem, the tools are there. It is an electronic age and we can send men to the moon and we can send teletypes to Morocco and back in a matter of seconds, and I am sure that if we work together now, with the insight that we have from the law enforcement officials here and others who may become interested as a result of this hearing being held, and get more input to even refine the language of the law that we have proposed—it is not the entire answer, we know, but it is a great beginning and we have a tremendous number of cosponsors here.

I know President Reagan's name has been mentioned several times today, as we talk about the budget and as we talk about the crime speech that he gave and the other comments that he has made. But I must remind all of us here that as those comments were being made, I recalled that the platform upon which he ran for President was very simple. I believe it was family, home, neighborhood, peace, and freedom.

I was reviewing those words today as they applied to this case, and in each instance we were talking about the fabric of the family and the fabric of the homes, and homes make up neighborhoods. And I could not help but wonder that sometimes we think about peace as being between countries, but I could not help but contemplate the peace that would have been in our hearts today if our families and homes and neighborhoods were in good shape and we did not have the threat constantly of having to be so alert for the safety of those three items.

So, the peace that comes in your hearts as well as in your communities by having safe streets and safe neighborhoods and safe homes obviously will allow a lot more freedom, which was the last plank of his platform, so that we can allow our children to go to the store once again and purchase their candy and come back again. And all of us would enjoy that which we were promised in the beginning when this country was founded, and that was life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I want to pledge to you that I am going to pursue this refining of this legislation so that it provides the tools necessary for us to locate missing people everywhere.

The hearing stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:12 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

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